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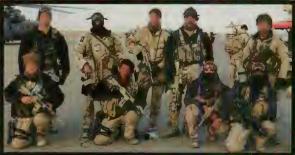
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On The Cover

Troops from 3/7Cav, some in Iraq for third time, pose for a short-timers hero shot: (back row, L-R) SGT(P) Rodriguez, LT Dejesus, SGT Cochran, SFC Johnson; (front, L-R) SSG(P) Williams, SGT Traylor, SGT Liesbish, SSG Sowby. Photo: Courtesy SFC Dillard J. Johnson







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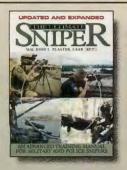
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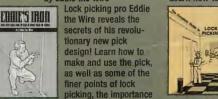


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by Wayne LaPierre, NRA Executive Vice President

Standing Guard

The Right to Keep and Bear Arms in defense of self, family and country is self-evident. In essence, our Second Amendment avows profound respect for human freedom, worth and selfdestiny.

But two centuries after it was codified into our Bill of Rights, the United Nations declares that this civil liberty is a cause of the world's violence. It claims jurisdiction over sovereign American citizens by crafting a global treaty that calls us to surrender our firearm freedom and accept whatever lesser standard of

freedom-if any-the U.N. deems ap-

Indeed, so insistent and insulting is the U.N. mandate that it chose to conduct its largest-ever global gun-ban conference on U.S. soil on the Fourth of July, 2006.

The global gun-ban treaty is a ticking time bomb—just a pen stroke away from U.N. gun laws being enforced in the United States. Any anti-gun president-say a Hillary Clinton-could call the U.N. document an "agreement" instead of a "treaty" and bypass needing two-thirds of the U.S. Senate for ratification. This is exactly what Bill Clinton did to get the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA), which Congress passed with simple majorities.

In the pages of The Global War On Your Guns, I show that the U.N. antigun axis is no sideshow struggling on a shoestring. It is a well-funded, global collective of 500 member organizations



from 100 nations. Their proclaimed mission is to endow themselves with global control of all firearms-long guns or handguns, civilian or military, illegally trafficked or lawfully possessed-for

If you study their words, you will find sweeping police powers offensive to the entire Bill of Rights. You will find that you are subject to record-keeping, oversight, inspections, supervision, tracking and tracing. You will read about surveillance, documentation, verification, paper trails and massive data banks for new global agencies and international data centers where your privacy is on display.

But what you will not find are any provisions by which oppressed people may be liberated from tyrants and dictators. You will not find the barest mention of anyone's rights to self-defense, to privacy, to property, to due process

Continued on page 76

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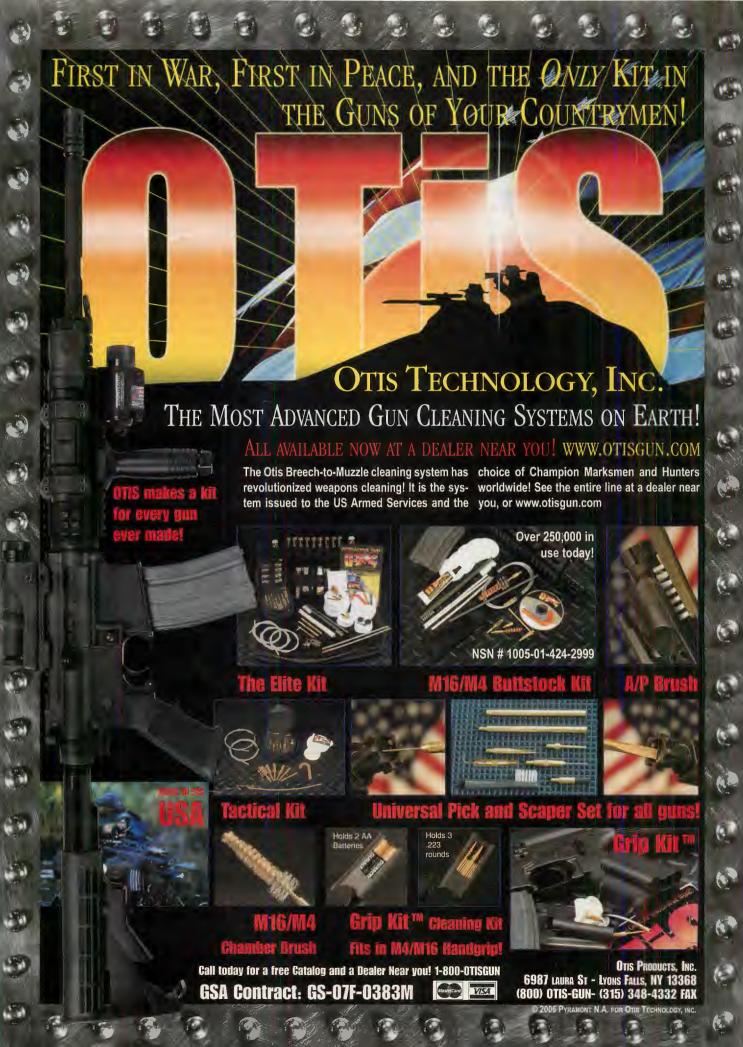
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Story Update

Just got back from an op. Marines doing great things out here. Wasted a little more than 20 insurgents in a recent firefight with no Marine casualties and found 1,000 pounds of IED-making explosive material. Guys are still trickling in from the op, but I'll have a story on it for you in the next few days.

Really appreciate your offer for reading material, I just got your shipment of books in so I am good for the time being. Still, that really means a lot that you would offer and I sincerely appreciate it.

Also just wanted to let you know that your magazine gets passed around here from Marine to Marine every month so we are definitely keeping up with Soldier of Fortune out here. Thanks for all you do.

Very Respectfully, Sgt. Lindsay

(See Sgt. Lindsay's story on the festivities at Salar Ban in the last issue.)

Back Issues for the Troops

I live and work in the Philippines. I need your advice on how and where I can ship my old back issues of SOF to the military overseas. I have a lot of back issues of SOF and I just don't want to toss them out. Where could I send them so that the men and women working overseas in the U.S. Military could enjoy them for their reading interest.

Also since I am in the Philippines I don't want to spend a small fortune to send them to the right place. I did check with the U.S. Embassy but to no avail at all. So I am curious for your advice? Does SOF main offices ever need back issues for your own library there? If so I have some from these years 2003-2006.

My older issues of SOF I won't part with for anything. These are the years of 1975 to 1980s.

Hope you can help. By the way I buy my issues of *SOF* here on a single basis. The subscription rates here are too expensive...but even now the single issues of *SOF* are hard to find. A damn pain in the neck.

Shelby Payne Manila, Philippines

Since mailing is expensive, and international mail terribly expensive, you want to avoid having to mail twice. So it might work best to get some troop addresses (like from www.soldiersupport.net) that you can mail to directly. Then to avoid international postage, maybe you can find some local U.S. forces near you with APO/FPO addresses, who could accept your donation of the mags, plus your donation of domestic U.S. postage (from one APO/FPO to another APO/FPO) and drop them in the mail for you. At least, it's worth a try.





Donation For the Troops

Sir

As a resident of Canada I do not have all the address to make a donation to the fine young men and families who sacrifice everything for our freedom. Instead of my local church donation I would rather see a donation given to a marine/family who could use it. Have been a long time reader of the mag, and know from time to time you print addresses for donation, but please forward me or print an address that I will know my money will go to the families and not paperwork or other such b.s.

D. Maki Vancouver, Canada

One fine organization that is set up to accept cash donations — and puts it all where you want it to go, because they are a volunteer outfit — is Soldiers' Angels, (www.soldiersangels.com). And don't forget you have some 1,700 hard-working Canadian soldiers serving in Afghanistan. For current info on how to send them morale letters or donations, go to www.cfpsa.com/en/psp/Donations/index.asp.

Reader's Analysis and Perspective:

Abu Ghraib and the Medal of Honor

At times it seems the news media here and abroad exists only to peddle sensationalism regarding Abu Ghraib and the U.S. military. The nine soldiers responsible have been tried and sentenced under military law. Any additional photos taken at Abu Ghraib in 2003 serve little purpose now, other than dwelling on a case already resolved. The guilty were punished: The Uniform Code of Military Justice has well-established rules of conduct.

I have worked with combat veterans for years within the U.S. Border Patrol. Many were reservists, NCOs



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and some retained commissions as officers: 150 served in the Gulf War and Afghanistan.

In 2003, while the national press was bombarding the senses with reports of misconduct committed by misfit military prison guards, a Medal of Honor winner received little attention in the United States.

The Medal of Honor is the nation's highest military award for heroism and uncommon valor in action.

U.S. Army Sergeant First Class Paul R. Smith received the Medal of Honor for conspicuous gallantry above and beyond the call of duty, Baghdad Airport, Iraq, 4 April 2003, serving with the Third Infantry Division.

As the Abu Ghraib abuse was aired to the world, Lt. Col. Allen West, USMC, was facing article 32 charges for using duress to extract vital information from an enemy combatant, under battlefield conditions, involving ambush sites, that effectively saved the lives of many under West's command.

Yet the press seemed to enjoy disgracing a fine officer. Many thousands







of concerned citizens and veterans groups signed petitions addressed to the President and Secretary of the Army. Colonel West was allowed to retire with dignity and the U.S. Marines lost an outstanding Officer.

On 6 April 2004, the Navy Cross for Valor was presented to two Marines at Twenty-Nine Palms, California, by the USMC Commandant, General Michael Hagee.

Within the Naval Service, the Navy Cross is second only to the Medal of Honor.

Marine Private First Class Joseph B. Perez received the Navy Cross for extraordinary heroism while serving as a rifleman, 5th Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division, 1st

Marine Expeditionary Force, in 2003. Marine Captain Brian R. Chon-

tosh received the Navy Cross for extraordinary heroism as a platoon Commander, 3rd Battalion, 5th Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Expeditionary Force 25 March 2003.

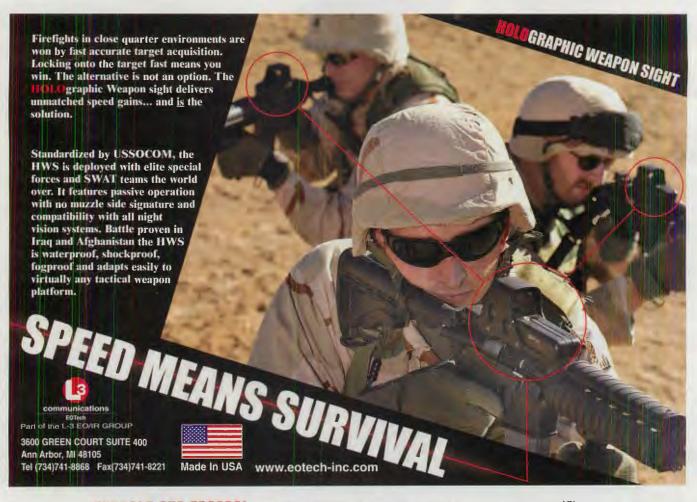
There was limited media attention for our Medal of Honor recipient Sgt. Paul R. Smith, or the Navy Cross awards to our Marines in 2003. Awards

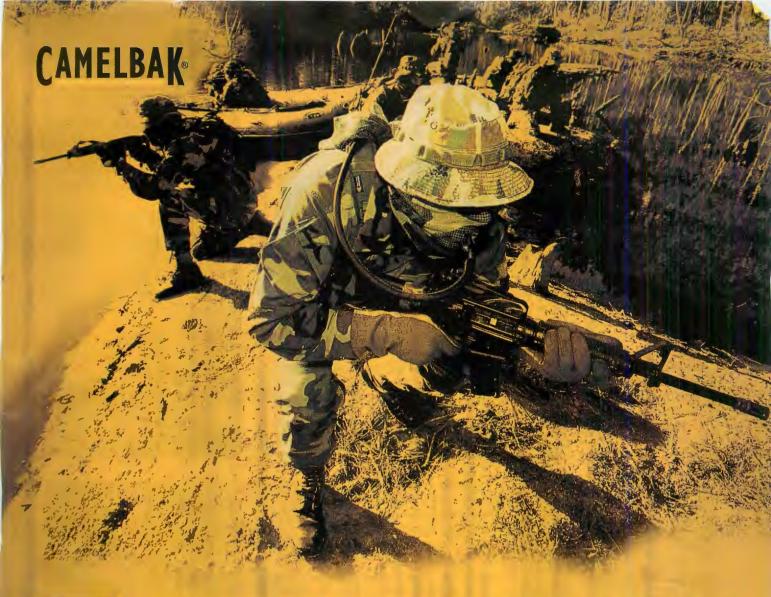
for valor from Bronze Stars to Purple Hearts have been rarely discussed by mainstream Media. The Washington Beltway also remains silent.

The actions of a few "knucklehead" reservists, including officers, at Abu Ghraib Prison was a disgraceful situation, but while concentrating on their misdeeds, an all-consuming task for the media, true heroes seemed to slip by unnoticed.

"Welcome Home" Paul Smith, Joseph Perez, and Brian Chontosh. Thank you for your service to your country, and thanks to all who now serve in "harms way."

John W. Slagle (ret) Special Agent Anti-Smuggling Unit, USBP Tucson, Arizona ♥







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BULLETIN BOARD

F-14 Flies Final Mission

Farewell to the last of the pure fighters: The last F-14 combat mission was completed 8 Febuary, when a pair of Tomcats landed aboard the USS Theodore Roosevelt after one dropped a bomb in Iraq. Capt. William Sizemore, who flew on that last mission, said the Tomcat will be missed. "This is one of the best airplanes ever built, and it's sad to see



it go away," Sizemore said in a Navy report from the ship. "It's just a beautiful airplane. And it just looks like the ultimate fighter."

Although still swift and deadly, the F-14 is a victim of changing mission requirements, and it's expensive to keep flying. The jet that flew its first combat missions in September 1974 requires 50 hours of maintenance, compared with five to 10 hours for the Super Hornet, for each hour of flight time.

Further, sophisticated missiles have made its specialty, dogfighting, obsolete. Hostile aircraft now target each other from miles away, often before the pilots can see each other except on radar. Precision bombing is the new priority, and despite modification, the

Tomcat can't carry the payloads of the new F/A-18 Super Hornet. Here the F-14D lands at NAS Pensacola on 13 April, to be come a display aircraft at the National Museum of Naval Aviation. Photo: U.S. Navy by Mr. Gary Nichols

Foomp This!

Soldiers with 4th Squadron, 14th Cavalry Regiment fire a mortar from the back of a Stryker vehicle during a test firing at Combat Outpost Rawah in the Al Anbar province of Iraq. DoD photo by Lance Cpl. Andrew D. Young, USMC





Just follow the signs to the new Presidential Library... Photo: Courtesy Joe Armstrong Here's a Global Hawk UAV that recently returned from the war zone under its own power, traveling from Iraq to Edwards AFB, CA, not transported via C5 or C17. Notice mission paintings on the fuselage – more than 250 missions.... (may we presume 25 air medals?). That's a long way for a remotely piloted aircraft, considering the



technology and required quality of the data link to fly it remotely from a busy comfortable control panel at Edwards. Photo: USAF, Courtesy Lead Pursuit



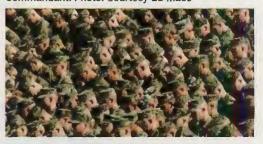
They're not Merc Skirts, they're *kilts*. A dozen PSDs working in Iraq have registered a tartan with the Scottish Tartan Authority in Perthshire, and the first order should leave the weaving mill in a few months. The registered description reads,

This tartan, designed by Matthew Newsome, was commissioned by "The Baghdad 12" ... in January of 2006,

to commemorate the service of the Private Military Contractors serving as Personal Security Detail during Operation Iraqi Freedom. The colors in this tartan were chosen for their particular symbolism to the PSD members: Brown and tan represent the Iraqi desert we served in; green is for the new Iraq we strive to create; the red is the blood we shed; and the black is the life of our friends laid down for our mission. PSD members, direct support staff, and immediate family are authorized to wear this tartan.

The Baghdad Twelve comprise: Jason King, William, Ian, Tommy, Robert, James, Pennie, Michael, Paul, Jason, Maaka, Roger; they hail from the USA, Scotland, Iraq, South Africa.

What's this? "These are federal employees, on federal property and on federal time. For them to pray is clearly an establishment of religion..." spokesperson for UCLU. "...God Bless Our Warriors, Send the ACLU to France." Colonel Jack Fessender, speaking for the Commandant. Photo: Courtesy Ed Mace



Silly Warfighting?

Troops doing house and building searches in Iraq are using Silly String to help detect booby trap tripwires, spraying silly string into a room before entry. The light synthetic foam will hang over, but not activate tripwires, revealing their location. If you are sending Care packages to the sandbox by a medium that will accept pressurized cans, include some Silly String with the next parcel.

Military Casualty URL

For up-to-date data on GI casualties from Korea forward to present conflicts, broken down by branch, state and other delineators, go to http://siadapp.dior.whs.mil/index.html

New Benefit Book Available

The new booklet Federal Benefits for Veterans and their Dependents is published, and is due to be available at VA Regional Offices (VARO), Vet Centers and hospitals by the time this issue is on sale.

This 150-page book is also available online as a downloadable pdf at http://www1.va.gov/opa/vadocs/current_benefits.asp

Machete Slice — 13

Machete-related crimes are occurring from coast to coast and north to south at an increasing rate, but have only recently begun to reach the radar screens of law-enforcement and government officials nationwide. Although there is not yet an official count of the incidence of these crimes, they are more common in places with sizable Latin American and Caribbean immigrant populations, and machete assaults also are cropping up elsewhere.

In Fairfax County, VA police have tallied more than 110 machete cases since they began keeping track. Most were linked to gangs, particularly the notorious and rapidly growing Latino gang Mara Salvatrucha (MS-13), whose members have been identified in more than two-dozen states. MS-13 appears to have adopted machetes as the weapon of choice because of the fear the blades generate with their potential for grievous wounds or death, and the fact they are readily available at little cost.

Lebanese-Canadian: Five Years for NVGs to Hizbollah

A New York federal judge has sentenced a Lebanese-Canadian man to five years in prison for attempting to sell night-vision goggles and infrared-aiming devices to Hizbollah, federal prosecutors said.

Marines Ban Polyester

Here's a Heads-Up for anyone sending CARE packages to the Sandbox:

Marine Corps commanders in Iraq have banned wearing synthetic athletic clothing containing polyester and nylon when conducting operations off of FOBs and camps.

The ban on popular clothing from companies like Under Armour, CoolMax and Nike comes in the wake of concerns that a substantially increased burn risk is associated with wearing clothing made with these synthetic materials, as when they are exposed to heat and flames, such materials will melt and fuse to the skin. This essentially creates a second skin and can lead to horrific, disfiguring burns, said Navy Capt. Lynn E. Welling, the 1st Marine Logistics Group head surgeon.

Nomex skivvies, anyone?

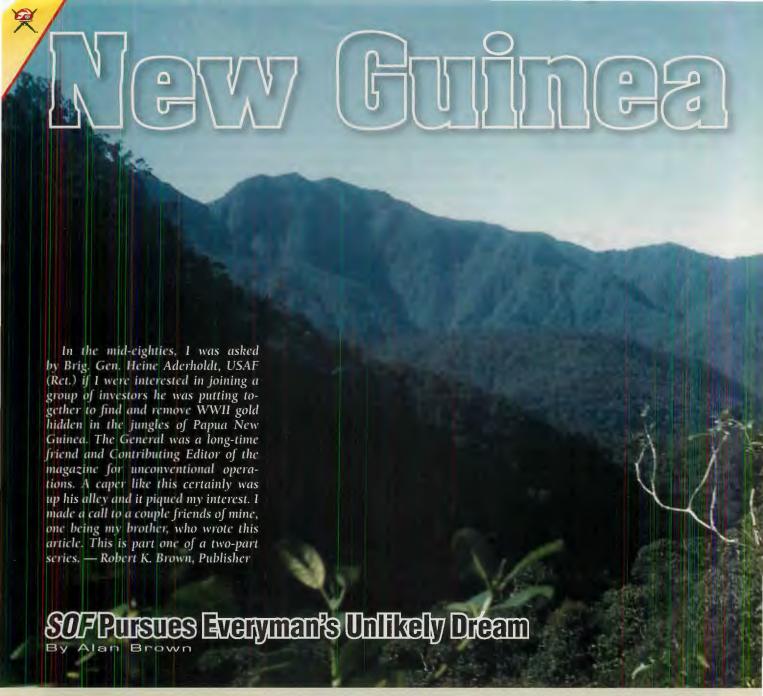
Naji Antoine Abi Khalil, who had pleaded guilty last year in the Southern District of New York, will serve his term concurrently with a sentence of 57 months for money laundering that resulted from federal charges in Arkansas, the U.S. Attorney said in a statement.

Khalil, who ran an import/export business in Montreal, was arrested after arranging the deal with an unidentified man who was cooperating with the FBI and an undercover agent posing as the supplier of Generation 3 goggles and aiming devices made for M16 rifles.

Continued on page 79



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NORTH PACIFIC OCEAN SOUTH ACIFIC OCEAN Wewak Mount Mount

Posey's Gold.

Papua New Guinea (PNG) lying some 200-plus miles north of Australia, is a country with spine-like mountains covered with layered tropical growth and very few roads. Transportation was and still is primarily by air. During 1937, more cargo was carried by the local airlines there than all other world airlines combined. Most

of the cargo was equipment and sup-

plies needed for the operation of the country's gold mines. Gold mining and processing is still one of PNG's major industries. The German-made GS-31 three-engine cargo plane, predecessor of the Junker 52's that carried German paratroopers and supplies during WWII, was widely used to hump freight over PNG's formidable terrain.

Formidable terrain or not, when asked by Robert to join the group I eagerly agreed. Having recently closed a

(left, top) Located just 200 miles off Australia's northern tip, New Guinea was strategically placed in WWII: Japan used it as a base of ops against Australia, the Allies wanted it as a base of ops against Japan's South Pacific territories. Source: CIA World Fact Book (left) The lumbering but capable Betty (Mitsubishi G4M) bombers Japan used for strategic bombing were responsible for Posey meeting the Lutheran missionary as they hid in a bunker, whose hoarded gold was the object of this whole exercise. Photo: Imperial Navy, via Wikipedia



couple real estate deals, I ponyed up the required amount and spent the next decade plotting with Bob, over many beers, how to spend our share. Of course, the Publisher stated that he intended to use his share to first support the Contras in Central America, the rebels in Afghanistan, and other freedom fighters in the world. The General said he was going to move to Thailand and support many of the locals, while I had much more lofty uses for the to-be-acquired wealth: The purchase of fast cars, boats, and big houses.

In May 1942, Japan was ready to execute her plans to invade Port Moresby in order to secure an airbase and prevent the allies from being able to bomb Rabual and Kavieng, two important bases for the Japanese in the South Pacific. The Americans responded and, although losing the Lexington and the Yorktown being severely damaged, aircraft from them sank the Shoho and damaged the carrier Shokaku. Actually, even though the battle of the Coral Sea was a "tactical victory" for the Japanese (they had more aircraft carriers at the time and could more afford the loss), it was a strategic victory for the Americans. Japan retreated from an over-water invasion and decided to capture Port Moresby by land.

In November 1941, Devon Posev was working as a medical lab technician in a local hospital when he was drafted into the Army. After one month of "basic" training at a Camp Lee in Birmingham, the Army realized Posey's medical skills could be used immediately and shipped him off to Australia. While in Townsville, his whole squad got arrested by MPs for wearing short sleeves when the uniform of the day was long sleeves. Typical military bullshit. Assigned to the 4th General Hospital unit headquartered in Melbourne, his group was sent to Oro Bay to set up a hospital that would handle casualties from bombed ships.

Japanese twin-engine bombers (Betty's) on their way to Port Moresby flew over Posey's hospital and dropped a 500# bomb or two. Posey claimed this is when the nickname "Washing Machine Charlie" was coined to characterize the distinct noise of the plane's engine. When three shots were fired from a Bofors anti-aircraft cannon to signify an eminent attack, Posey would take cover in a foxhole and, more often than not, share its safety with the Pastor of the local Lutheran mission. As one might

expect, after many such nights hiding in the dugout, they became friends.

The Japanese landed 30-40 Klicks north of the hospital and could have easily captured the facility but their eyes were on Port Moresby. At the time, it had been rumored that the invaders beheaded several missionaries at Buna, causing the missionary to think about seeking a safer climate. However, he had a big problem. For the past 20 years he had provided spiritual and other services to the natives, miners, and travelers for which they paid him with gold nuggets sometimes carried in a shoebox. Confident of the trustworthiness of his new friend, he took Posey inside his house, removed wallboards from one side to expose row upon row of neatly stacked, rough-cast bars of gold weighing 20-25 pounds each. When I questioned Posey about the amount, he replied that there was so much gold in PNG that "you could see the stuff in the bottom of the streams if you knew where to look."

"Laying Up Treasures in Silver and Gold"

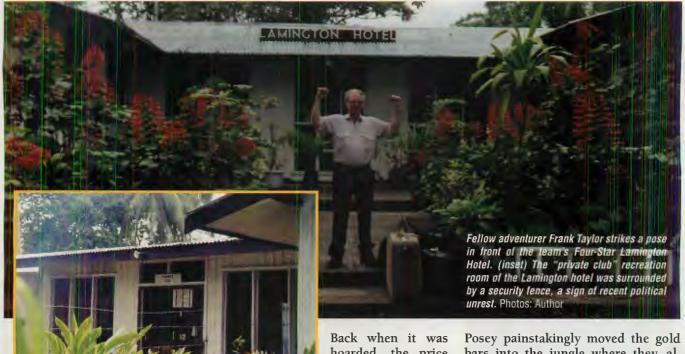
During the course of the next three nights, Posey and the pastor moved some 322 bars of gold and buried it in their foxhole-now-turned-vault. The Pastor left Oro Bay, not to return until the war was over.

(In December 1993, I spent two days in Deming, New Mexico interviewing Posey. His story matched what General Aderholdt had told me back in the mid '80s when I made my first investment.)

My mind reeled with greedy anticipation when I did some quick calculations: Assuming an average weight of 22 pounds per bar or 85,008 ounces of gold with a price of \$400 per

(below) In May 1942, Japan was ready to execute her plans to invade Port Moresby in order to secure an airbase and prevent the allies from being able to bomb Rabual and Kavieng, two important bases for the Japanese in the South Pacific. Damaged at the battle of Coral Sea, the veteran of Pearl Harbor carrier Shokaku subsequently was sunk by American submarines: Japan retreated from an over-water invasion and decided to capture Port Moresby by land. Photo: U.S. Navy, via Wikipedia





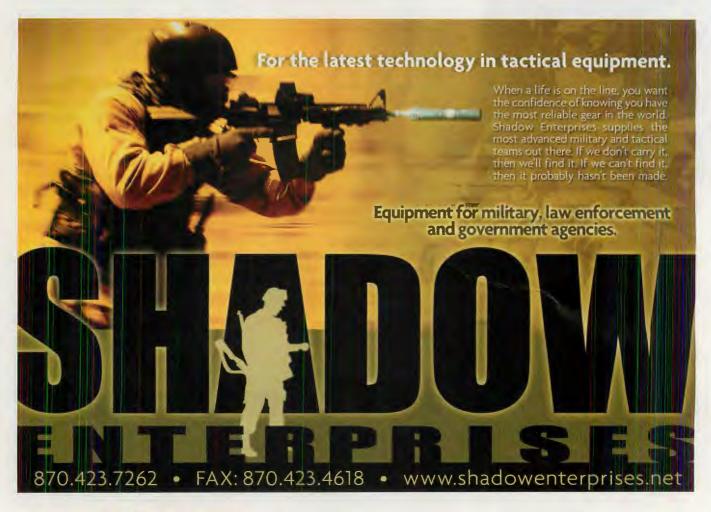
ounce would mean a total value of more than \$34 million for the cache, enough to excite even the most timid of adventurers, including yours truly. Back when it was hoarded, the price of gold was fixed at \$35 per ounce, still a considerable sum

in those days, especially when one recalls the price of gasoline was less than 20 cents a gallon.

During the next three months,

Posey painstakingly moved the gold bars into the jungle where they, allegedly, still remain today. Posey said that after the war he went to school and got a 1st class marine radio operator's license in order to get a job on merchant ships that would take him to New Guinea. Unfortunately

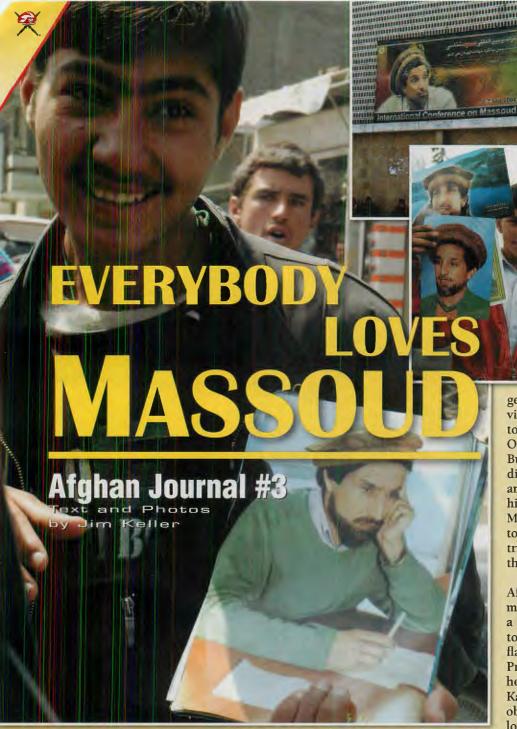
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What a guy, that Massoud. Remember him? No first names necessary, he's just Massoud. He's everywhere in Afghanistan; at least his likeness is. Photos, posters, banners, calendars, you name it. What, the name doesn't ring a bell? Massoud who? Sorry, this country's getting under my skin and I must be assuming the world revolves around it, when, really, there's no good reason anyone outside of here would have much reason to remember the dead warrior now lauded here as "The Hero of Afghanistan."

Massoud was the Northern Alliance leader (or, warlord, but let's not let anyone hear us call him that, it's not polite) who was assassinated the day before 9-11 by two al-Qaeda posing as journalists, who blew up their video camera/bomb when granted an interview with him. Side note: Assume al-Qaeda are stupid or cowardly at your own risk. Massoud, having survived as a Mujahadin commander during the Russian occupation and post-Russian battle against the Afghan commie government, then in battle against the other Muj warlords, then finally against the Taliban, was no fool; he had the two "journalists" cool their feet for a couple of days, supposedly vetting them before allowing them into his tent for the fatal "interview."

"The Lion of the Panjshir" was

Massoud's nickname because of his fierceness in defending his homeland, the Panjshir Valley, which is north of Kabul. Even when the Taliban finally managed to run him out of the valley, he picked and pecked at them as any good guerrilla

general would. And that lion was obviously considered dangerous enough to warrant the assassination. Perhaps Osama bin Laden anticipated George Bush's ultimate response to 9-11 and didn't want the warrior lion Massoud around to help the Americans run him out of Dodge. Any way you cut it, Massoud's martyrdom has raised him to hero status, and by appearances, a trip around this country makes one think that everybody loves him.

The first thing welcoming one to Afghanistan, draped outside the terminal building of the Kabul Airport is a huge banner of Massoud - it's got to be three stories tall. Granted, it's flanked by an equal banner of Afghan President Hamid Karzai, but one can't help feel the shared billing is a slap to Karzai's face. Not that Karzai would object. Heck, remember, everybody loves Massoud. The city itself is dotted with banners and posters and billboards, and even woven carpets, in honor of Massoud. There is even a landmark roundabout called "Massoud Circle," though the statue there is just some pointy pyramid-type obelisk shape that has no symbolism to Massoud that I can figure out.

It doesn't end with the big-billing stuff. On the crowded streets, kids and teen boys, men even, hawk from car window to car window 8 x 10 color photos of the hero. And you find those photos displayed on car dashboards and rear windows, on bus windows, on shop windows – the guy's everywhere. The only problem so far is, there are too many different photo

poses of him. I'm just waiting for everyone to settle on the one definitive shot — call it the Che Guevara silhouette — and then it can go universal. On book covers, on broadsheet movie posters, on T-shirts, on sweatshirts, on ball caps, on neckties, on lapel buttons, on hand-painted sheet banners hanging fifty-feet tall from European university dormitory windows. Copyright the thing, and you can become a millionaire.

This Massoud phenomena isn't restricted to Kabul, either. Go to the provinces, and he's there too. Go to the farthest villages, and he's there. Little Toyota Corolla taxis, bouncing in the ruts and billowing up dirt and dust in clouds out where you'd think only camels trod - and there's a Massoud photo on the dash or taped to a window. On the windows and dashes of Afghan National Army pickups, and likewise on Afghan National Police pickups. On the dashes and windows of pickups and dark-tinted-windowed SUVs of the troops of rival warlords. You name it. And again, we're not just talking Kabul and Tajik country; we're talking Pashto land and Hazara and Uzbek land too.

Tajik, Pashto, Hazara, Uzbek? "Whoa, buddy, wait a minute," you're saying, "you've lost me." Did I fail to mention? Those are the four major ethnic groups in Afghanistan. Pashto are the majority by far and rule the east and south, basically all of the lands that border Pakistan, and, interestingly enough, they are a huge ethnic group in Pakistan itself, split down the middle when the English randomly said "This here on this side is Afghanistan, on this side it's India," later to become Pakistan.

Second in population are the Tajiks, and for whatever reason not immediately evident to a visitor they like to consider themselves the rightful rulers of Afghanistan. Third, and long considered the (insert the N-word here – sorry, there's no better way to put it) of Afghanistan, are the Hazara, the descendants of Genghis Khan. (See Khaled Hosseini's bestselling novel *The Kite Runner* for a pretty good sense of the Hazara's place in society from the 1960s to the present.)

Fourth are the Uzbeks, from up north, and SOF readers would know them as the army of the warlord Dostum, with whom those 5th Special Forces guys rode into battle on horseback. What SOF readers most likely don't remember is that that same Dostum is famous for slaughtering his hated Hazara neighbors by the semi truck-trailerful, but that's best left for the history books, as this post-Taliban era is blessed with a "can't-we-all-just-get-along" attitude. At least, that's what the U.S. and Coalition Forces want.

That's not a dig at the U.S. or CE Most Afghans want the same attitude to prevail. Because it is an attitude that brings relative peace. Peace brings stability. Stability, prosperity. Prosperity, full stomachs. Massoud was a Tajik, and on the surface everyone seems willing to forget that and, as the billboards and banners announce, they are happy to make him the hero of "Afghanistan," all of it. Not just a Tajik hero, an Afghan hero.

The problem is, the four major ethnic groups really don't like each other. It's been bad blood for too many centuries. The Pashto don't even speak the same language, Dari (which is a form of Farsi), as the rest. Theirs is Pashtun. And here's the rub: A large portion of the Pashto also speak Dari, but do the others know Pashto? Don't hire a Tajik (Kabul) terp and expect to make it in Eastern and Southern Afghanistan, that's for sure. You'll be forcing the Pashtos there to speak Dari to him because, you guessed it, he won't speak any Pashtun, and

you'll have more doors closed on you than even partway open.

And that's where the hero-worship of Massoud fits in. It's easy, he's dead. He died a martyr. Whatever his ethnicity, who can speak badly of him? But ask a Pashto in private, in a whisper, what he really thinks of Massoud - even if he has his photo displayed, faded, on his Toyota's dash - and you'll get a shrug, followed by a shake of the head and an admission that, yeah, Massoud fought the commies and the Taliban and was a good man, but...but..."he is Tajik." Enough said. And you realize that if Massoud were alive today, there wouldn't be those billboards and banners and photos and woven carpets; he'd just be another warlord politician fighting for his share of the spoils pot. Sure, there is a possibility he might have been voted in as President, but then surely he'd be as hated as loved such is the lot of a president, who has to try to bring everyone together and has to deal with the real, everyday, international problems of a country, not just wage war — but actually run a government.

There may be huge banners hung of President Karsai, but they are government produced and displayed banners. His framed photo hangs in government offices, but it sure isn't on car dashboards or rear windows. There are no woven carpets with Karsai's face on them that I've come across.

But there is one thing I've found about Karsai. Everybody seems to be willing to admit that he is trying to be fair in his government, sharing ministry positions with all the ethnic groups. Karsai is Pashto, did I mention that? And for those other ethnicities to admit that he is not abusing his position to establish the Pashto as the dominate group, well, if the future of Afghanistan proves to be peaceful and prosperous, then Karsai, as the president who guided it through these tough first years, may one day be considered a "Hero of Afghanistan." And he may get that woven carpet portrait.

And it's my own private hope, though I've never met the man, because I am rooting for this country, that it doesn't take his assassination to make him that hero.

Jim Keller is the nom-de-plum of a freelance writer who was a Special Forces captain in 5th Group.



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ON THE STREETS

by Officer James J. Fotis (Ret.), Executive Director, LEAA

Illegal Immigration is a Crime

Entering the country illegally is a crime - but a lot of politicians think state and local cops should look the other way. Many police officials, facing limitless demands for manpower and a shortage of resources are not excited about the prospect of taking over a job the feds are supposed to handle. Meanwhile, some legislatures are racing forward to provide special benefits to those who enter the country illegally, from drivers' licenses to in-state rates on college tuition. Local law enforcement and illegal immigration is such a hot button issue that some big cities, such as Los Angeles and San Francisco have banned their officers from any enforcement activity.

According to the research of Manhattan Institute Fellow, Heather MacDonald, illegal immigration represents a serious threat to the public safety of local communities. MacDonald has written an article titled "The Illegal Alien Crime Wave", in which she exposes the not so hidden dangers of unchecked illegal immigration. MacDonald presents some shocking statistics from Los Angeles, including the claim that 95% of all outstanding homicide warrants and two thirds of all fugitive felony warrants involve illegal aliens.

America has made great strides in fighting crime by empowering local law enforcement to take career criminals off the streets through "Three Strike" laws. Similar gains could be made if local law enforcement were empowered to deport illegal aliens arrested for violent crime in the U.S. MacDonald cites an excellent example in Florida, where an illegal immigrant was arrested in Miami in connection with more than half a dozen rapes. According to MacDonald, the very same alleged rapist was previously arrested for lewd conduct by Miami police, and had they checked his immigration status, would have been able to deport him for overstaying his VISA.

It is an easy excuse for local law enforcement and political leaders to defer immigration enforcement to the feds, after all, it is the feds' job. But looking the other way in the face of a crime epidemic goes way beyond leaving a federal issue to a federal agency. Perhaps the worst part of the official 'look the other way' policies found in cities like Los Angeles is the known offender concept.

The National Review recently published an article by an LAPD officer about LA's enforcement ban, not surprisingly the officer had to write under a pen name. Officer "Jack Dunphy" shares with National Review readers the shameful realities of Los Angeles' ban on enforcement. According to Dunphy, if an LAPD officer on patrol sees someone he personally arrested and saw convicted of a violent crime, someone who was handed over to the feds and deported after serving their sentence, the officer cannot arrest this criminal for breaking the law yet again and returning to America illegally after being deported.

Fortunately, not all local law enforcement agencies are turning a blind eye to immigration crime. Sheriffs from Texas border counties have taken it upon themselves to mount a supplemental border enforcement campaign, appropriately named 'Operation Linebacker'. Other agencies are taking advantage of legislation passed a decade ago in Congress that allows them to specially train officers for immigration enforcement, using federal dollars.

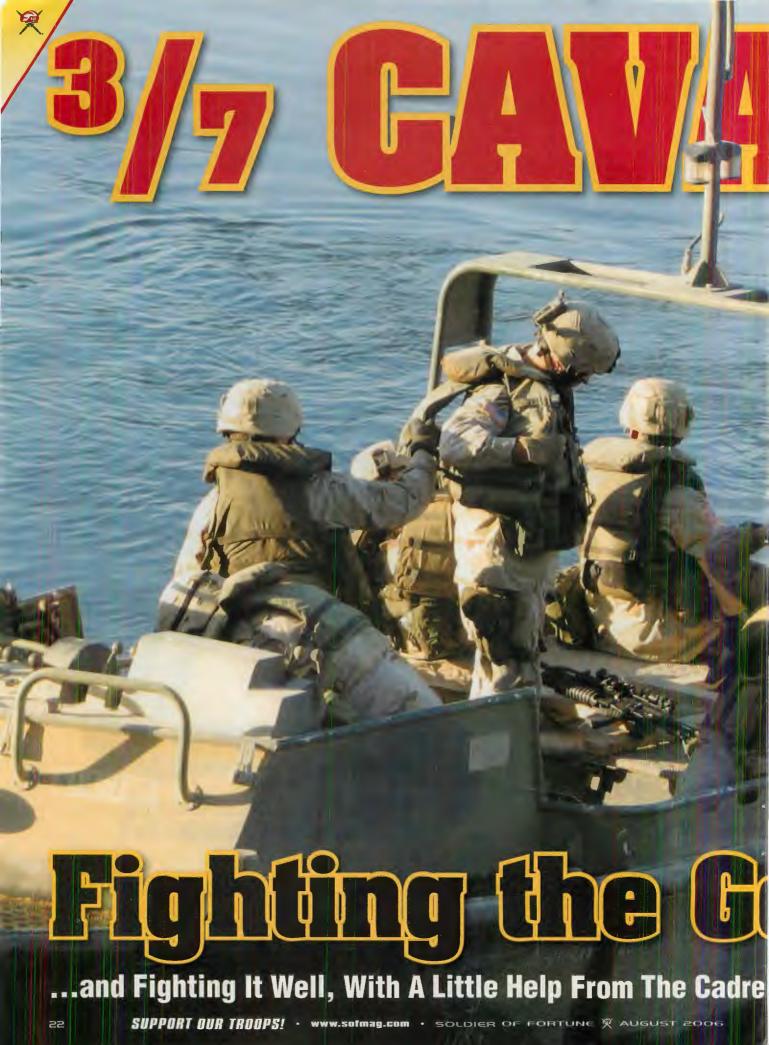
State and local law enforcement cannot afford to do the job on their own, and they need support from deferral agencies who will promptly secure illegal alien prisoners for deportation. But even more expensive than the efforts to fight illegal immigration crime is the cost of doing nothing. For Los Angeles, it can be counted in thousands of felony and homicide warrants.



LEAA is a national, non-profit association of over 75,000 members and supporters. Unlike other police-based groups LEAA's membership is open equally to law enforcement, crime victims AND pro-law enforcement citizens who support the Second Amendment. For more information, or to join in the fight, please go to www.leaa.org









By SFC Dillard J. Johnson Photos from Author's Collection

Captain Michael Burgoyne was tall and thin and reminded me of John Wayne in *The Sands of Iwo Jima*. We gave our new Troop commander the nickname of Captain America for the way he always conducted his operations just like the all-American boy.

Captain Burgoyne called SFC Todd Young, SFC Mark Madrey, plus the platoon sergeants from 1st and 4th platoons and me, into his office to come up with ideas on how to take out the IED threat in our new zone in Baghdad. After two days of all four platoons doing recons of the area, we all knew we would have to have a good plan. Our mission was set and ready, when CPT Burgoyne came and told me we were going to do a river assault on some islands in the Tigris River. At first I thought that he was joking and said "Yessir! Heh, heh." Long story short, 3rd and 4th platoons got the mission and, yes, it was down the Tigris River. The 318th Engineer Company, better know as Lighting Over Water Company, would be our ride across the river in their bridging

After some quick training, we put the 318th boats in the water down river about 20 miles from our biggest island. We would take two boats upriver on a recon to make sure there would not be any sand bars to stop the upcoming mission. The first boat had CPT Burgoyne, LT Cummings, LT Goulet, SSG Ingleston, myself, and three members of the 318th in it.

The second boat would just be members of the 318th to watch over all of us. We would have three Bradley's from my platoon in over-watch from the east side of the river, where they would follow our movements. The three Bradley's would be commanded by SSG Sowby, SSG Craig and SGT (P) Rodriguez. SFC Madrey, my wingman, would be running the command post at the launch site with two of his M1 Abrams. After only 20 minutes into our mission, our over-watch boat had engine trouble and had to turn around.

Bradley's At Our Back

We still had three Bradley's and some Apaches to cover us, so we kept moving north. It was a nice day out, and I was thinking about being



(above) Team shoves off to assault the suspect islands in an RIB, in Operation Steamboat. SGT Sean Cochran is in bow. Note improvised landing ladder. (below) SFC Johnson in bow has downloaded Google map taped to stock of his M4. Banks of Euphrates are choked with rushes and bamboo, complicating launch.



back in Mosquito Lagoon with Mike Marple and my boys fishing for reds. Then the water around the boat started exploding. I looked to my right and could see insurgents firing from the west riverbank. Everyone in the boat was returning fire but CPT Burgoyne who, with a cool head, ordered the boat skipper to take us behind an island and out of the line of fire. After firing six M203 rounds at the insurgents, I looked around inside the boat only to see that everyone had dropped below the water line, except me. I was on the engine deck that was even with the top of the boat. I fired another 30 rounds of 5.56 from my M4. CPT Burgoyne was on the radio net talking my Bradley's onto the insurgents. SSG Craig opened up with 25mm, hitting the insurgents with more than 50 rounds of high explosive.

Needless to say, it broke their back, and the insurgents stopped firing and were trying to get their shit back together. By this time, CPT Burgoyne had our attack air support back overhead.

The two insurgents that got away from SSG Craig started to fire at MAX 26, our air support. Bad idea. That lasted about 30 seconds before MAX 26 had 30mm chain guns rounds and 2.76 inch rockets on top of them.

We had had all the fun we could stand for one day, so we headed back down river and into yet another firefight. This time we had our air support and Bradley firing back at the insurgents as soon as they opened fire on us. I had fired all 10 of my M203 rounds and we only had about 120 5.56mm rounds left with us in the boat.

Why Teamwork Counts

The day's total was insurgent 0, Crazy Horse 9. I would like to thank MAX 26 and his wingman for the Apaches, and SSG Craig who killed six insurgents with his Bradley and saved the lives of everyone in the boat. Although I recommended him for an Army Commendation award with valor, Brigade thought that he was just doing his job. I would not be here and neither would anyone in the boat if SSG Craig had not been there, in time and on target.

The rest of the way down river all I could do was laugh. Everyone was just looking at me like I was crazy. If you think about it, there we were, going up the middle of the Tigris River in one of the worst times that most Iraqi people could remember.

It's like I told my First Sergeant, Tony Broadhead, every 'Raqi Redneck on the river got out their rifles and started shooting at the sitting ducks in the boats. When we got back to our launch site, we counted more than 20 holes in the boat and ten of them hit right next to where I was sitting above the gunwales drawing fire.

This trip up the river had caused Command to change the plan. We would now assault the island from smaller RB15s, which are 15-man rubber boats and can be put in the water almost anywhere. The day of our assault, I was number-one man and would be the first man out of the boat. My boat hit the bank of the island. [Note to anyone in a combat zone: make a small wooden ladder that will fit on the hood of your Bradley: It is worth its weight in gold.] I put the six-foot ladder in place and started out of the boat. I heard a splash. As I continued up the bank, I realized that I was hung up on something. I turned to look back down the bank and I could see my pistol stuck on a root under water. Once again my Blackhawk lanyard had saved my pistol.

After pulling my pistol up the bank we completed the mission. There would be no enemy contact that day at all. As it turned out, all four islands did not have any insurgents on them. After talking to Tom O'Sullivan from Blackhawk about my pistol falling out of my holster, we figured it was because I kept forgetting to snap the thumb lock. He sent me the new SER-

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They use it because:

- It works like crazy to dominate <u>multiple attackers</u>, control ANY attacker instantly, and open up <u>"permanent"</u> <u>elimination of the threat</u> whenever you choose...
- 2. It is so *simple* to learn and master, that soldiers can just <u>watch the training</u> in the afternoon... and USE it to save their lives that evening. There are only a FEW core moves, and they are all natural, instinctive, and based on the "gross motor skills" of your reflexes. (That means there are absolutely ZERO "fancy" moves, or anything you must practice at to get good.
- 3. Plus... once you use this new system in combat, there is NO DEFENSE another man can use, hand-to-hand, to counter you. It's that effective.

That's why the elite forces now battling

Iraqi insurgents and Afghan warlords <u>DEPEND</u> on this super-secret system.

Here's the story:

Through my extensive contacts in the high-end (and mostly secretive) *combat arms* of the U.S. military... I found **Glen Boodry**. Glen Boodry lives in the real world of deadly combat...

Spec Op Guys Seeing The MOST COMBAT Now <u>DEMAND</u> To Be Personally Trained By Boodry

Because they know — from deadly experience — that learning these simple fighting secrets WILL save their lives.

He doesn't get to teach very many soldiers what he knows... because he's still on ACTIVE DUTY. And he gets the *choicest and most dangerous* assignments every time. He's one of the elite military's most trusted combat veterans.

Here is just a taste of his vast military experience:

- He provided personal protection to Hamid Karzai—the current President of Afghanistan. This duty was "Class One" dangerous, with numerous on-going assassination attempts.
- "Classified" counter-terrorism specialists. That got him shipped immediately to the Middle East once the heavy fighting began. I cannot give you current details of his whereabouts over there, or his current duties... or the military brass would come down on both of us like a ton of bricks. But he's there, fighting.
- He's considered one of the top specialists we have over there... because, among the many martial arts he's mastered, he knows the odd styles of handto-hand used by Middle Eastern terror-

For the first time ever, US Counter Terrorism and Hand-to-Hand Combat Expert Glen Boodry is revealing his combat tested and proven fight system to civilians.

ists. It's NOT karate or ju-jitsu. His special fighting knowledge has kept him in the HEAT of the War on Terror since 1989.

√ He's been a skilled martial artist since he was a kid, and is a recognized (and feared) expert at Muay Thai

He's also spent serious time in the Philippines, and was there when Marcos was toppled and every American in town was a target. He and four other Spec Op soldiers had to fight — without weapons — for two solid days, against knives and sticks and really pissed-off mobs, before finally reaching an American base.

- ✓ And a lot more. He's fought vicious drug lords in Columbia (the kind who behead hostages faster and with more pleasure than the whacked-out terrorists in Iraq do)... and has been "loaned out" to big-city SWAT units to take out narcotic labs, as an Assault Team Leader. (The worst were the bathtub "meth" labs run by bikers unafraid to die.) He's been instrumental in over 750 "Code Red" cases, including suicidal hostage-takers.
- ✓ Oh yeah... and he was a <u>front-line Team</u>
 <u>Leader for Spec Op units</u> during Operation Desert Storm, Operation Desert Shield, and the current Operation Enduring Freedom. Worked with Army Spec Op, Navy Special Warfare, Air Force

Spec Op, FBI, DEA, DELTA... it goes on and on. Medals, citations and awards up the yin-yang. Has held **Top Secret clearance** (you know what **that** means).

Boodry is the most sought-after professional soldier/fighter/special operations leader you'll ever meet.

And it's okay to ask "Why?"

Here's the answer: I cannot even begin to list the martial arts Boodry is an expert at. But here's where Boodry goes WAY beyond any other teacher you'll ever know: After YEARS of bloody hand-to-hand combat in "real world" situations of life-and-death... he learned to REDUCE all martial art skills down to

Just A FEW EASY MOVES.

Have you got that? There are a ton of "wannabe" fighters out there who say they have easy systems to teach you. But they're *lying...* because they've NEVER able to actually test, perfect, and refine their systems in **constant mortal combat**.

Boodry is THE man among elite Spec Op soldiers heading into the difficult combat overseas right now. Because...

- ✓ He knows that you will ALWAYS be fighting more than just one person at a time... and the others may be hiding, or waiting to come at you... so you cannot afford to waste more than a few seconds taking any attacker out.
- ✓ He knows that ANY "fancy" fighting move will FAIL under the stress of real-world combat. FAIL. There is no artistry in street-level fighting, when your life is on the line against terrorists and enemy combatants. ALL of your "fine" motor skills (the delicate muscle movements and strikes of formal fighting) become numbed-out and worthless when the adrenaline starts flowing.

Nope. You need to know basic, animalistic "gross motor skills" to survive and win — the kind of natural, instinctual moves and skills that work no matter how stressed-out you are, or how much pain you're in, or what the situation is.

That's why Boodry's extensive education in martial arts is so important — he's not just "saying" that most of the fancy, stuff doesn't work in real combat.

He's Already Proved What Works And What Will Get You Killed.

This guy has blood on his hands, and decades of experience to prove his point.

This is GREAT NEWS for anyone who's been dreaming of a truly effective fighting system that is...

✓ Easy to learn <u>fast</u>, because the moves are so simple and basic, and there's no need for practice, no need for for-

- mal training, and no need for highend conditioning.
- ✓ It works no matter what shape you're in against multiple attackers, armed attackers, and highly-skilled gangs who have ambushed you in the dark. You can be wounded, dizzy, drunk or exhausted... and it STILL works like crazy to take out ANYONE who screws with you.
- ✓ Even better... you don't need prior training, don't need to be big or strong, and you don't even need to have any prior fighting experience under your belt.

Sounds too good to be true, doesn't it?

Well, the soldiers and special agents who line up to learn at Boodry's knee don't CARE if it "sounds" too easy, too simple, or too strange.

They just want to learn the *simple and immediate skills of kicking serious ass* under horrible combat conditions.

And they CAN'T spend a lot of time learning hand-to-hand. A soldier's first weapon will always be the gun. Then the blade.

When a soldier has been forced to use hand-to-hand, that means things are really screwed up... and his life is in immediate danger. He needs to be able to "click" his body into FULL KICK-ASS GEAR instantly... and get busy taking out everyone he can reach.

That's What Makes This So Great For Civilians!

We can't walk around armed to the teeth, like a soldier. We HAVE to rely on hand-to-hand almost every time we are surprised, ambushed, or attacked.

And that's why my money is on this amazing new simple fighting system created by Boodry for combat soldiers in the Middle East. They're fighting in the streets, in "urban" warfare. And, because of the politics, they CAN'T always just kill everyone they encounter.

That would start another riot, and they can't afford that.

Same with civilians. You can't just kill everyone who pisses you off, or even pushes you down in a bar.

So you NEED a system like this — which allows you:

- 1. To <u>totally dominate</u> anyone who threatens you...
- 2. Without killing them (right away)...
- 3. So you <u>CONTROL</u> them until you decide what to do.

It's up to you, completely, how things turn out. This gives the ability to fight when you have to, and not worry about going to jail because you've just ripped someone's head off. Oh, you'll still leave them on the ground, unconscious, humiliated, hurt. And they'll regret the day they got in your face. But you don't have to worry about having killed someone. Unless... you're in one of those horrible situations where you MUST deliver lethal power to save your loved ones or yourself.

You've got to SEE this new system for yourself to understand it fully. There are only a few "core" moves. Boodry teaches you EXACTLY how to get your "mindset" right, in a split second... so you are NEVER vulnerable.

And yet, this is NOT the "usual" menu of chokes, kicks, bites and manipulations you'd see in ANY OTHER fighting system out there.

What you see here will blow your mind.

It's the answer to anyone who has dreamed of a truly vicious set of skills that can be learned just by watching the training... and absolutely COMPLETES your need for effective hand-to-hand self defense in the real world. Wow.

Here's just a "taste" of what you're about to learn, fast and without sweat:

- What to expect to happen to your body when the stress of lethal combat gets in your face... and what to DO about it. (Knowing the physiological reactions that happen, and the secrets of CONTROLLING those reactions, mean you'll NEVER BE NERVOUS... and you'll know exactly what to do with the river of adrenaline that starts pumping.)
- Why soldiers with real combat experience shun "fancy" strikes that require practice and delicate moves... and rely ONLY on basic, simple, "natural" and instinctive moves to obliterate any opponent in a split second. (They need to take care of each attacker so fast because there's usually another one right behind him.)
- How to make MAXIMUM USE of your "startle" reflexes when ambushed or surprised by violence... so you channel your natural "kick the living crap out of him" impulses with laser focus that cannot be defended against!
- "Live fire" secrets that automatically keep you loose and mobile (and impossible for your opponent to "get a bead on", which keeps him confused and unable to land a blow).
- The "total" mindset you MUST get into to dominate an attacker. This is what separates the men who survive from the boys who get humiliated, or killed. (It's easy to "fuse" this mindset into your system, too, once Boodry shows you the simple secret.)

- How to "cycle" blows, within 3-second bursts, that never allow your opponent a chance to recover or return the attack.
- The 8 "instinct" moves that are ALL you need to know for real combat. (Pure animal viciousness at your sudden command, whenever you need it.) NO ONE, of any size or strength or skill level, can stand against these basic, brutal strikes.
- Front-line ground techniques soldiers demand to learn — easy stuff that eliminates the ridiculous training time other grappling systems require. These are the "instinctual" basics that your body will instantly recognize and be able to USE.

And a ton more. But the basic stuff can be learned JUST BY WATCHING the training. And, again, you don't even need to be shape to master this stuff.

This is PERFECT for civilians like us. Easy to master, simple to use when needed, and you don't have to devote much time to getting it down.

This will change your life. Instantly.

But hey — if this stuff is really so good, and so many active soldiers and SWAT guys demand to know it...

Why Haven't You Heard About Boodry Before?

Because... he hasn't had the time to train anyone BUT professionals.

However, he's about to retire from military service. And the military has NOT yet secured a "do not reveal" order for his training. (Even though Boodry "invented" this new system from his experience with combat and martial arts — and he is solely responsible for every detail of it — the military has a bad habit of demanding secrecy.)

So Boodry knows he has a short "window of opportunity" to lay the groundwork for his teaching career. He knows that getting his reputation out there is crucial... and very time-sensitive.

So he's agreed to allow us to get the word out, for as long as we're able. To a "select" group of guys like you, who are hip to just how important this stuff really is.

This is GREAT news for you. It means... if you act fast... you can see EXACTLY the same fighting secrets now being used by the most active soldiers in the most active battlegrounds today!

And I've got it ALL on DVD for you. Boodry himself, teaching every detail of his mega-dangerous, super-simple and easy fighting system.

You're in for a treat... if you have the guts to act fast.

Here's the deal: I will rush this package to you so you can see everything for FREE, if you choose, and... You don't risk

a penny... more on that in a minute.

Call my office right now. The number is <u>1-800-899-8153</u>, and I want to you tell the person who answers "I want the Boodry DVDs, fast". They're not free, but you can see them for free, if you choose.

Here's how: To get your DVD package rushed out to you, we'll charge your credit card \$97. That's the low, super-discounted price of this package that Boodry insisted we charge — I believe we could charge \$500 and *more* for this stuff, but Boodry is dead-set against "gouging" people. This \$97 price point is a HUGE bargain.

Once you get the package, I'll give you a full 90 DAYS to check it out, however you see fit. I don't want you to feel that you're under any pressure to decide.

If — even on the last day of your 90 DAY guarantee — you decide these DVDs are not what you thought they'd be... simply send the package back for a full refund of your \$97. No questions will be asked. You do not even need a reason — just send them back with a note saying "Sorry, but I want a refund".

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Boodry really is everything I've said he is. He is the REAL DEAL — a combat veteran of HUGE respect and experience... who knows how to TEACH YOU the same combat secrets he teaches other soldiers who must face death in the Middle East battlefields and mean streets.

So don't put this off, or you'll miss out.

Sincerely,

P.S. I almost forgot — I have a FREE gift for you, too. Boodry insisted I send you this extra DVD he made, free. It's all about close quarters knife fighting — the principles behind using a blade, how to carry it, slash and cut methods used by soldiers, and unique self-defense methods using a knife that NO ONE ELSE has ever revealed to civilians before.

This bonus DVD is yours free, to keep no matter what else you decide.

Here's what other fighters are saying about Boodry - it's pretty amazing, the respect and awe this guy gets from the best in the biz. Listen to this:

"...without a doubt the best and most effective fighting system I have ever seen. It is absolutely brutal!" Jake B., US Army Special Forces • "I have never seen a more direct and physically intimidating hand to hand combat system! I have used it and it works!" Mike, U.S. Navy SEAL • I have personnally conducted special operations with Glen overseas and have witnessed him use his system under some of the worst possible conditions! This systems is extremely effective and direct! Terry, U.S. Navy SEAL • "I

use these on the streets and they work. The skills that are given here are second to none and have heen forged through experience.' Dewane F., Las Vegas Metro Police Department What makes these videos different is that Boodry has literally been there and done that! He's a legitimate special operations operator who teaches from a well trained and experienced eye. I've used the material Boodry teaches and I recommend these videns strongly Mike, Special Forces (Delta Force)

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Back to the IEDs

After the boat mission it was time to put into action our plan for the IEDs in our zone. The first thing we had to do, however, was to check all the polling sites in our zone for the upcoming elections. My platoon would send out three gun trucks. SSG Sowby would be in the lead, LT Cummings and LT Adam Harris would be in the second truck I would bring up the rear in my gun truck. Less then a mile from the turn-around point, SSG Sowby's gun truck was hit by an IED. The IED blew a big hole in the road but the tough armor on the 1114 gun truck protected the crew. LT Cummings took charge and had me dismount with a small team to try and catch the insurgents that had emplaced the IED.

My team consisted of SGT Sean Cochran, PFC Patty Turnbull and myself. We moved down the road to where the IED had detonated. SGT Cochran told me he had movement up ahead, so I fired an M203 parachute flare. As soon as I did, I could see three men running towards the river with AK47s. I opened fire with my M4 and then started chasing the insurgents. They fired wildly back at me as they were running away. I tripped and fell in a ditch as the air was filled with 7.62x39mm rounds from their AK 47s. SGT Cochran helped me up and we took off after the insurgents again. Running down the riverbank we picked up the trail again. This time, two of the insurgents were waiting in ambush and opened fire on us. SGT Cochran fired first, hitting one of the insurgents in the chest and knocking him down the bank into the river. I fired at the other insurgent knocking him down into their boat with the third one. I had emptied the magazine on my M4, and loaded weeds into the magazine well with my next magazine. As soon as I let the bolt go forward I knew what had happened, but it was too late.

There I was, looking down at this insurgent less then 10 feet away from me reaching for his AK47, so I fired an M203 HE round into the boat. A flash of light, than a hard hit in my chest and I found myself lying next to SGT Cochran and PFC Turnbull.



Author (center, in shades) and some of his team pose with members of the Iraqi POB (Public Order Battalion) they helped train and support. Indigenous forces have come a long way, have a long way to go.

The M203 round had exploded in the boat, breaking it in half and knocking us back six feet. [Note to Self: 10 feet is too close to shoot the M203.] Luckily, we were all OK.

Just as we were getting up, SPC Jeff Sund, the lieutenant's gunner, spotted one insurgent on the other side of the river, shooting at us. SPC Sund was the best M240B gunner we had in the troop. At a range of more than 400 meters he fired across the river at the insurgent. By his second six-to-nineround burst, he was on target. SPC Sund then opened up with a long 75-round burst that ate up the insurgent and the riverbank.

Flaying a Fleeting Target

Lieutenant Cummings called attack air in for help, but the Apaches were on another mission north of us and by the time they got there it was over. Just like in the movie *Top Gun* where the aircraft carrier captain said the fight would be over in two minutes, most of the firefights in Iraq are over as soon as they start. With four more kills to add to our platoon, we would move back to our FOB to begin

what we thought would be an easy mission set.

Crazy Horse troop would take control of one of the major supply routes in eastern Baghdad. CPT Burgoyne had all four platoons in-zone at the same time.

Bushnell's range finder proved spot-on, and priceless for quickly determining the range of a fleeting target. It proved a good match for the Bushnell optics author had mounted on his M14. We would be working around 14-hour missions outside the wire. I had my platoon broken down into two sniper teams and a heavy support team of three Bradley's. SSG John Williams would be in charge of one sniper team and I would be in charge of the other. My new Lieutenant David Dejesus, along with SSG Sowby and SSG Craig would be in the Bradley's.

Our first night out, SSG Williams spotted a would-be IED setter. He had the guy in his sights, but Williams waited and watched to make sure that

it was the right guy.

Williams called the CO and told him what he had, and the CO sent SSG Wyatt our mortar platoon sergeant, who was acting as our light quick reaction force (LQRF) that night. When the guy saw the gun trucks coming at him he ran to his car. This was the worst-case scenario for SSG Williams: Why was this guy running? To kill him or let him go? Did this guy emplace an IED? SSG John Williams did the smartest thing he could do at night at a range of more than 300 meters: He looked through his Bushnell Elite 4200 rifle scope he was using with a





First Sergeant Broadhead and Captain "America" Burgoyne take a minute for a glamour shot before heading out on ops. As this goes to press, author is on leave until his ETS, before going back over as a PSD contractor. When you have served with men like these, a little bit of them goes with you.

universal night sight? and took out the passenger-side tires of this guy's car as soon as he started moving. This stopped the guy, and without killing anyone, a sniper team took a bad guy off the street.

Let there Be Light... NOT!

The next two missions were long and cold. I had SSG Kennedy on my sniper team and we had been on every roof in town but had spotted no bad guys. We had been out in sniper positions for more than a week, often working at night. There was one instance when I got a chance to take out an insurgent that was an easy shot - less then 100 meters. But just as I fired, I saw about 20 guys moving around Kennedy and me. We moved into an old compound with no lights, where we could watch the gate and shoot anyone that came inside to get us. I had SSG Kennedy watch my rear and I watched the gate to my front. I called my Bradley's to come and pick us up. They were a good 15 minutes away.

This was no big deal. It was dark and I had a good wingman with me, and I had the best night sight in the world. Then I heard the engine start on a generator and then the compound lit up. It was like we were in a Wal-Mart parking lot. I looked at Kennedy who was now looking at me and pointing at the high-voltage power line running down the wall to the lights in the compound. We had to put a plan into action quick, or we would be dead. Kennedy told me to use the LMF II I had gotten from Mark Schindel at Gerber Legendry Blades.

You could tell from the sound of the engine, this was a serious generator. The power lines were about two inches thick and had a lot of juice running through them. Mark had told me I could use the LMF II to cut through anything, to include power lines. So now you see my dilemma. My only way out was to trust a \$100 knife I was told would work - or the two of us could try and fight a large force under the lights.

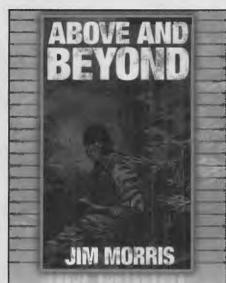
It was one of the easiest hard decisions I ever had to make. I took my LMF II and told Kennedy, "if this thing gets me fried, go kick Mark's ass for me," and went over to the wall and down to the power line, and stuck the knife in between the power line and the wall, saying to myself "in Mark we trust." Using my body weight I jumped and pulled down on the LMF II. A bright flash, then it was dark again and the best thing was, I only felt the heat from the lines as the LMF II cut through them. I had two spots burned into my knife but, hey, it worked, we were alive and it was dark again. The LMF II saved my team's life.

Now that we had the lights off, it was our fight again, and the bad guys hauled ass, giving us the opportunity to disengage. Lieutenant Dejesus showed up in our Bradleys and we took the long ride back to our

Next month: sniper duel, and the good guys win.



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DoD photo by Spc. Harold Fields, U.S. Army



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It Isn't Just Your Run-Of-The-Mill .45 Automatic!

Text & Photos by Gary Paul Johnston

When they introduced a Model 1911A1 pistol some years ago, Auto-Ordnance Corporation even stamped the slide "U.S. Army." Being the largest manufacturer of the famed Thompson .45 ACP submachine gun used in World War II, Korea and Vietnam, Auto-Ordnance had a pretty sound background in producing military weapons. Even though the company had not previously made a 1911 pistol, there are no great secrets in making such a pistol, even one that works.

Since A.O.'s Model 1911A1, with its Parkerized finish and checkered plastic grips, was a dead ringer for the original issue pistol, it quickly became popular with collectors and shooters alike, as all parts were interchangeable with the real McCoy. Some of these guns even became the basis for custom 1911 pistols, although a number of companies were offering pretty much full-house custom pistols right from the factory.

Then, desiring to market its own 1911 pistol, Kahr Arms purchased Auto-Ordnance and things began to change. While the company continued to offer the Parkerized 1911A1 Army version, it soon introduced a brand new one called the THOMP-SON CUSTOM 1911. It's quite obvious that Kahr/A.O. did a substantial amount of homework in designing the THOMPSON CUSTOM 1911. Let's take a look.

First of all, except for its blued sights, black, checkered plastic flat mainspring housing, and lightweight aluminum trigger, the THOMPSON CUSTOM 1911 appears to be made entirely of stainless steel. Starting at the muzzle, the pistol has a fitted match barrel bushing and a barrel to "match." Beneath this is a full-length guide rod — now the rage. Atop the front of the slide is a dovetailed front combat blade with a serrated rear, and on both sides are forward cock-





(left) With fine lines, the pistol comes with forward slide-cocking grooves and has the famous Thompson "Bullet" logo on the left side of the slide. (right) On the right side of the slide is engraved THOMPSON CUSTOM 1911. Note the lowered and flared ejection port.

ing-grooves, which look very much like those on another popular 1911 pistol, and matching grooves are also

found at the rear of the slide. In a lowered and flared ejec-

tion port, the THOMPSON CUS-TOM 1911 houses the chamber end of its Match barrel, which is sufficiently fitted so as to not be too tight for reliability. Behind this is a combat-style fixed sight that is drift adjustable for wind-

On the frame portion of the pistol is a typical well-executed hollow spur hammer usually referred to as "Commander" style. well-shaped "beavertail," "humped" grip safety is directly behind this and holding it in place is a well-designed thumb safety. The slide stop is a no-nonsense standard style. So far, so good.

With a slightly extended magazine release, the pistol also has a slightly mid-length matchstyle adjustable trigger made of lightweight aluminum. The front strap is perfectly machine-check-

ered with 20 LPI and the mouth of grips whose Allen-head grip screws the magazine well is nicely beveled. The stainless steel magazine, like the

left side of the slide, bears the famous Thompson "Bullet" logo, as do the beautiful large diamond checkered

The THOMPSON CUSTOM 1911 rode perfectly in its Milt Sparks Holster for concealed carry.

are also blued.

The exterior of the THOMPSON

CUSTOM 1911 is matte finished with THOMPSON CUSTOM 1911 roll engraved on the right side of the slide,

> and nearly all of the exterior is nicely "melted," leaving few sharp edges. The inside of the pistol is essentially identical to that of other 1911 pistols, except for its better-than-average fitting of parts and its trigger-activated firing pin safety. Being essentially identical to that used in the Colt Series 80 1911, this system includes an extra coil spring to be compressed by pressure of the trigger finger. On the THOMP-SON CUSTOM 1911, this results in a trigger pull of about 5 pounds with some creep.

> Devoid of shiny parts, the exterior of the THOMPSON CUSTOM 1911 is rendered in a pleasing matte stainless steel finish, except for the chamber, which is left in a brushed finish. The sights are finished in a matte blue.

Trigger Time

Realizing that 1911 trigger pulls usually get better with use, this one may get smoother, but it probably won't get lighter. Although this





pistol's fit suggested a combat accuracy potential of 2- to 3-inches at 25 yards, its trigger pull led me to think this might be unlikely. However, this was not quite true.

From the bench, the THOMPSON CUSTOM 1911 had no trouble producing 5-shot groups of 3- inches or less at 25 yards, but shooting offhand opened my groups up to from 4- to 5-inches. While the trigger will break-in somewhat, I'd be in favor of helping this along with a good combat trigger job of about 4 pounds.

All other functions of the pistol worked smoothly and surely, and I

had no trouble depressing the grip safety sufficiently when shooting high-thumb. The magazine also inserted smoothly and fell free when the release was depressed. No malfunctions occurred with any of the various ammunition fired.

The THOMPSON CUSTOM 1911 rode well in a Milt Sparks Holster and pointed well, with the sights coming right up on target for me just like any Model 1911 pistol. The forward cocking-grooves provided good purchase for slightly retracting the slide from underneath to verify the presence of a round in the chamber.

Other than a mild trigger job, the only other thing I would change on the THOMPSON CUS-TOM 1911 is its fulllength guide rod, as I prefer a conventional recoil spring system. While the long rod can be cut to length and rounded, the hollow recoil spring plug would need to be replaced with one having a closed end in order to keep debris from entering there.

If you're in the market for an affordable stainless steel 1911 pistol with many features formerly found only on custom built pistols, check out the THOMPSON CUS-TOM 1911 from Kahr Arms, One Blue Hill Plaza, Box 1518,

ww.sofmag.com .

Specifications:

THOMPSON CUSTOM 1911

Caliber: .45 AGP **Muzzle Velocity:** 1000 fps

Operation: **Browning short**

recoil, single action

Barrel Length: 5 inches Overall Length: 9 inches Weight: 40 oz.

Safety: Thumb safety, firing

pin safety & grip

safety

Sights: **Fixed combat**

Grips: Checkered walnut

Finish: **Matte stainless**

steel

Price: \$753.00 (sugg.

retail)

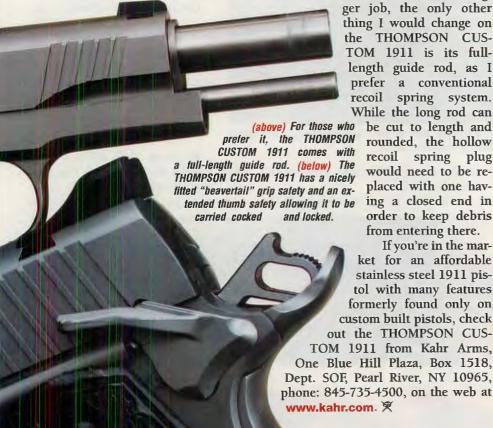
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Milt Sparks Holsters

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SOLDIER OF FORTUNE X AUGUST 2006



"Will Your Subconscious Repulsion To Taking Another Man's Life Make You The 'Statistic' In A Life-or-Death Assault?"

You May 'Think' You Can Do It But Odds Are... You're <u>DEAD</u> Wrong!

ricture two people, locked in mortal combat. Now, imagine yourself in this scene, tell me, "What would you do?" (Hint: It's most likely wrong!)

"Kick him in the groin." "Strike his arms or punch the solar plexus." "Stomp on his instep"

The list is always the same.

Everyone comes up with things that'll "turn the tables" on this guy, stuff that'll somehow get them out of the situation.

Unfortunately... <u>each answer puts your life at risk</u> in the face of a life-or-death assault!

Why? Because invariably when Tim Larkin asks students this question at his *Target-Focus*™ *Training* (*TFT*) bootcamps

No One — Not Even Trained Martial Artists — Ever Sees <u>Themselves</u> As The One <u>Doing</u> The Choking!!

They're always the one being choked.

But think about it... couldn't this have been the scenario?

You are surprised by two attackers. You've completely disabled the first and now have control of the second and are about to put him totally out of commission...

Possible? Of course. It's just that no one sees it this way, It's human nature. We shy from victory, from domination. It's the way most of us are built... unless you're a criminal...

Here's the problem: A thug comes up, places a knife to your throat and demands your wallet. Taking him at his word you give him the wallet. He then proceeds to stab you repeatedly leaving you in a pool of your own blood, astonished you've been stabbed.

What went wrong? Just this. You ASSUMED he only wanted the wallet. After all, why would anyone stab someone over a few measly bucks? **YOU** certainly wouldn't do that if you were robbing someone.

And that **IS** the problem. With thinking like that...

You've Just <u>Transferred Your Own</u> <u>Moral Code</u> To A Sociopathic Killer... And With It, Quite Possibly, Your Life.

See, nothing bothers him. Certainly not your morals. With a total disregard for society and it's rules, he has no regret whatsoever in cramming a blade into your gut... to get what he wants.

You stroll around thinking 15 years of martial arts training or that 6-week self-defense course or some reality fighting video gives you the edge you need against someone like this. Wake up!

You are hopelessly training techniques (then praying they work) against someone who isn't "training" for you. How many criminals in federal pens spent years sweating through JKD workouts before committing their crime? How many are Jujitsu experts?

Not a one! They excel at just one thing: doin' it. No training, no practice, no techniques. And certainly no 'rules'. So why squander years fooling yourself with something that only works "if everyone plays by the rules"?

These are the facts: 98% of us caught in an unavoidable violent attack (even those with years of training), would never consider doing "whatever it takes" to survive — like gouging our attacker's eyes — even if they were the only targets available, and... even if it was the only means of saving our own life!

Larkin trains you from the get-go how to kill, if necessary, to survive a life-or-death confrontation.

He doesn't advocate violence. TFT just de-mystifies it. He's often quoted...

"Violence Is Rarely The Answer. But When It Is... It's The Only Answer."

Look... others in Black Belt try to impress you with how bad they are; their accomplishments in the "secret world" you aren't privy to; their guru status.

TFT isn't about that. It's not about

an individual, a personality... or a guru.

It's about a system... one that's focused totally on you!

No bones about it: Larkin's record is impressive. He trains units from all the top echelons of federal law enforcement and military special operations groups. It's not surprising since he comes from that world and is well known there. But everyone in Black Belt tries to claim this so you'll rarely hear him talk about it.

He's an awesome communicator and trainer, and is amazingly approachable for someone with his abilities and credentials. And he's trained 1,000's of CEOs and others in high-risk positions around the world — all very real people.

But why is this so important? Why is TFT being sought out in all these other arenas?

Because it works! Because you "get it" immediately. Not after weeks or months or even years of training... but <u>right now</u>... as soon as you experience it. And...

Not Only Is It Usable... Instantly... But Just Like Riding A Bicyle It Stays With You Forever... Even If You Never Practice It Again!

Here's why: the key lies in the fact this is the only system based totally on the PRINCIPLES (not techniques) that determine the outcome of any physical confrontation. Combine these with three supporting methodologies that form the foundation of every fighting system on the planet and you have a complete system usable by ANYone for handling ANY violent confrontation. With this information you can look at anything out there... including your own training... and know immediately if it's worth keeping.

"It was the most effective days of training in hand-to-hand and hand-to-weapon that I or everyone else had ever experienced." Brian (last name withheld), US Border Patrol, S Carolina

During the last few years Larkin has trained more than 785 CEO's in Europe. This year he'll spend more than 5 weeks personally training clients in England, Hong Kong, Australia and other countries around the world. These folks are eating his stuff up because TFT principles and methodology are as effective in the 'combative' world of business as they are in a truly lethal fight, and for the exact same reason -- RESULTS.

Think about this: If these people can get this much from his material, imagine how much more you can learn... a dedicated reader of Black Belt magazine who is really into finding and applying a system that is quickly learned and deadly effective. If all these folks are seeking him out, shouldn't you be too?

Look, Larkin is swamped and realizes he can't begin to reach everyone. While he'd love to have you as a member of his organization and to take part in his live training, he realistically understands few will be able to ot this. Bootcamps run \$1,500.00, international events start at \$9,500.00, and personal training for small 2- to 4-person sessions cost \$5,000.00-\$10,000.00 and more.

That's why, in a daring move with potentially serious ramifications, he's released a WEAPONS-focused version of his TFT system that shows you how to defeat a violent

criminal in a WORSE-than-worst-case scenario. After seeing his program... a life-or-death confrontation in a dark alley is a piece of cake.

Not only does this new series take you inside the criminal mind, it goes way beyond... showing you how and why you must first learn to USE a weapon... if you ever hope to defeat a criminal using it against you! Highly unconventional and extremely controversial it teaches you how to get your focus off the weapon... and onto defeating the REAL threat.

Some foolishly feel this stuff is too violent, totally ignorant of the fact you don't always have to push it to the levels shown on these tapes.

It's Very Easy To Ramp This Down To Fit A Lesser Situation But <u>It's Impossible</u> <u>To Ramp Up And Kill Someone If</u> You've Never Trained For It!

Some will be shocked, dismayed, offended and outraged that anyone would dare show this stuff. They'll raise a stink... and do everything possible to get this yanked. But better you see this on video than experience it first-hand on the street!

Everything you'll see here is vintage TFT. You learn to hurt someone very quickly (every sequence shows killing movements right from the start). There's no size, speed or quickness required. Anyone can learn this because it's based on principles not some guru's skills.

Guys that have been in the trenches for years are blown away by the simple brutality and effectiveness of this system and the competence of Larkin's instructors, including their knowledge of anatomy and how to inflict trauma on the human body.

Each averages 10 years of training and surprisingly most aren't 'jocks'. Many have advanced degrees; five hold PhD's! His advisory board includes two medical doctors who assure everything you see about inflicting trauma on the human body is totally accurate.

"With this system: 1) You will learn what Larkin says you will learn, and 2) The course is exactly as advertised — intense, targeted, focused training designed to produce immediate results." Mark D. Fabiani, Crisis Mgt Consultant, La Jolla, CA

Let's cut to the chase: this program is extremely controversial and certainly NOT for everyone. If you'd never consider killing somone threatening your life or if you're hoping to see lots of useless predetermined techniques or cool setup moves — you can stop reading here. This is only for those who want to learn to defeat a criminal in a life-or-death situation!

* * NEW FREE DVD * *

Listen. I understand you may find this hard to believe. That's how I felt too until I saw the videos. Unfortunately there's not room here to adequately describe the <u>shocking reality of what Larkin has created for you</u>. That's why he's willing to mail you a FREE Special Report and put a FREE DVD (all you pay is a small \$4.97 put a FREE DVD into your hands that'll <u>prove everything you've just read</u> and explain why this program is so <u>radically</u> **DIFFERENT** from anything you've seen.

To get his FREE Report & DVD pick up the phone and call 888-234-2192. There's a short message and then you can leave your name and address so everything can be mailed to you. It's voicemail so you can call 24-hours a day, 7 days a week and no one will hassel you.

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User Pressure, Antis, and Slobs Endanger Shooter's Rights

Text & Photos by Dave Workman

There's a gunfight quietly raging in the nation's national forests, as recreational shooters are running headlong into other users who don't like guns, forest rangers who find it increasingly difficult to deal with the messes left by a few slobs, and an obscure regulation that apparently has been misused to shut down shooting altogether in some popular, traditional roadside shooting areas.

Trouble first surfaced last year in the Boulder Ranger District of the Arapaho-Roosevelt National Forest in Colorado. There, using a forest regulation that prohibits shooting within 150 yards of an "occupied area," and relying on what apparently is a mythical verbal ruling by an unidentified federal magistrate who allegedly defined public roads as "occupied areas," the district ranger closed a popular shooting area outside the community of Boulder. The regulation also bans shooting across or on a national forest system road or a body of water adjacent thereto, within 150 yards of a residence, building, campsite or developed recreation site.

At the time, Boulder District Ranger Christine Walsh confirmed to the nationally-circulated firearms newspaper Gun Week that she had used the regulation, 36 CFR 261.10(d), to post a popular shooting area off-limits to recreational shooters. Unfortunately for her, one of those shooters was local resident Michael Bane, co-producer and host of the program Shooting Gallery and producer of Cowboys and American Rifleman TV on the Outdoors Channel. Bane raised a stink that went all the way to the office of Wayne Allard, one of the Centennial State's two United States senators.

In the meantime, the National Rifle Association was getting involved, not only because of the problem in Boulder, but because shooting had also been banned on portions of other national forests. A *Gun Week* investigation revealed that ranger districts across the West have been using the regulation to cite recreational shooters, and one staffer in Washington State's Snoqualmie-Mt. Baker Nation-

One of the biggest problems with recreational shooters in the national torests is that they don't clean up after themselves, say forest rangers. Litter is a big problem on public land.

al Forest acknowledged that if such a rule were enforced strictly, it might become difficult if not impossible for people to find a legal shooting spot because of the close proximity of roads in some sections of that forest.

But it appears this shooting restriction may be on shaky ground, both legally and administratively. Mark Rey, undersecretary for Natural Resources and Environment for the Department of Agriculture told *Gun Week* the "occupied area" interpretation that some local USFS officials have been using to prohibit shooting within 150 yards of a road is bogus. Rey, in an interview published last August, said the alleged ruling by the unidentified federal judge is an "urban legend, or in this case a rural legend."

"There is no such ruling," Rey said emphatically at the time.

Ironically, about the time that interview was published, Washington state resident Colin Mizumori was cited for shooting in a national forest area a few hundred yards north of Interestate 90 in the North Bend Ranger District. Armed with a copy of Rey's interview in February, he went to court. He later reported that while the prosecutor and judge did not seem too interested in the report, the case was surprisingly dismissed when some USFS employees at the scene apparently could not be located.

Recently, Mizumori noted that despite the dismissal of charges, he was advised by the prosecutor to not go back to the area shooting. "No Shooting" signs have since been posted at the spot where he was cited.

Yet, despite assurances that some sort of advisory would be issued to ranger districts across the country to stop using the language of 36 CFR to halt recreational shooting, months later no such memorandum had been circulated.

Advised of the problem, NRA's Susan Recce, who has been working with the Forest Service on recreational shooting issues, promised to press the issue with Rey's office. But the situation leaves concerned shooters in Colorado and elsewhere wondering just how long it takes the Agriculture Department to circulate a simple notice of clarification.

Attack of the Slobs

Complaints about recreational shooting deal not only with noise, but trash. In many popular shooting areas, from Washington's Middle Fork Sno-qualmie River valley to the Left Hand Canyon in Colorado's Boulder Ranger District, down to Arizona's Tonto National Forest, informal shooting and plinking areas have become eyesores. Old televisions, computer screens, microwave ovens, refrigerators, other discarded household appliances and even car hulks have been dumped.

Even shooters who didn't bring those items have used them as targets, and added to the mess by leaving empty shell casings and shot-shell hulls. In some cases, literally tons of garbage have been removed from popular shooting areas, time and again. Even when volunteers have helped clean up trashed areas, within weeks, more refuse shows up.

Bane suggested that a lot of the discarded appliances – which contain toxic materials so they are expensive to dispose of properly – are dumped not by slob shooters but by people who work on home redecorating projects.

The same thing was happening on the Tonto National Forest in Arizona, along with spreading urbanization. Years ago, shooters in the Phoenix area used to be able to drive a short distance to the national forest to plink and shoot targets. But over the years, Phoenix spread out, and a couple of years ago, some 87,000 acres of national forest land were closed to recreational shooting. That closure infuriated gun activists and shooters, although USFS officials quickly note that this closure represents only 3% of the forest. The remaining acreage is still open to shooting.

Shooting is Legitimate Use

Recently, USFS law-enforcement officials reiterated that shooting is an acceptable use of national forest land. Even Rey maintained that shooting is a valid activity on federal land. Likewise, Ann Melle, deputy director of law enforcement for the USFS, and Mark Tarantino, a USFS law enforcement officer in El Paso, Tex. have offered assurances that rangers would use their best judgment before issuing citations, as they also insist that recreational shooting is a legal activity in the national forests, so long as it is done safely. Even responsible shooters agree with that.

But the battle is far from over as conflicts seem to grow between national forest user groups, and people who build homes or move into developments that butt up against national forest lands. The noise from shooting unnerves many of these people, even though they know before moving to an area that it is adjacent to public land where shooting and hunting are allowed.

Yet, complaints about shooting do come from individual hikers, campers, horseback and ATV riders, and other recreationists. One source in the Boulder district said shooting complaints outnumber all other gripes from the public. It is a symptom of a sometimes-bitter animosity that pits user groups against one another, and in particular, against shooters. Despite a long tradition of firearms use on public land, some people dislike shooters and don't want them around.

Solutions to this conflict vary, from total closures to the establishment of specific shooting areas. Officials in the Tonto and Arapaho-Roosevelt National forests are reportedly looking at such alternatives, but progress seems slow. Months ago, NRA's Recce acknowledged that the work of a "round table" group that included representatives from the Forest Service, NRA, Interior Department, the shooting industry, the Isaac Walton League and the Bureau of Land Management that had started well had deteriorated gradually.

Steve Schreiner, president of the Firearms Coalition of Colorado, complains that the USFS has not dealt with shooters in good faith. He is suspicious that the agency already has its mind made up, at least at the local level, to prohibit recreational shooting on national forest lands all along Colorado's front range.

"I think that what they want to do is close off the first half-mile to a mile [of national forest land] along the edges of the forest to recreational shooting," he said, "no matter what we tell them. I think this is what they



Recreational shooters are worried that they will see more signs like this one crop up on national forests throughout the country, and particularly in the West.

are going to do in a year, 18 months from now."

Schreiner, Bane and even SOF publisher Bob Brown have attended public meetings recently on shooting in the Arapaho-Roosevelt National Forest's Boulder Ranger District, and none of them are happy. "It's a case of creeping gradualism," Schreiner said.

While shooters have taken it on their own initiative to clean up garbage, he insisted their efforts have not even been recognized by the Forest Service. And, he asserted, when shooters have tried to work with the ranger district, they have gotten nowhere.

"We had all these meetings, and everything was nice," he recalled, "but when it came to anything being said or done, absolutely zero was done. Nothing was developed." Schreiner said his solution to the problem would be for the USFS to tell the public that "this is a multi-use national forest and shooting is allowed, even on fringe areas." He would also have the agency work with shooters to develop formal long-range facilities with full-time managers.

He has little sympathy for people who have moved onto lands adjacent

to the forest, and then discovered they don't like the sound of people shooting. "They know the national forest is multiple use and they should have known shooting would take place," he said.

Brown, in his typically blunt approach, recalled one of the public meetings at which people broke down into small discussion groups. One of the people in his group was a female hiker who was upset about the noise from shooters.

Brown's reaction: "If her sensibilities are offended by the noise of shooting, my sensibilities are offended by the smoke from campfires that turn into forest fires, and the fumes and noise from ORV riders and trail bikes."

Where this debate leads remains to be seen, and it is certain the controversy will not soon go away. Increased user pressure, and conflicts between user groups looking for their own version of outdoor recreation are likely to keep shooters in the political and management crosshairs.

Dave Workman lives and shoots in the Northwest.

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6. UNITED KINGDOM MI-5 INTEL had exposed chief of 7 July London bombing that killed 52, but "lack of resources kept police and Intel from taking action against terrorist.

7. INDIA IRANIAN NUCLEAR THREAT triggers sharp increase in intelligence efforts against Iran.

8. AFGHANISTAN TALIBAN RESURGES WHEN POWER VACUUM results as U.S. troops pull out of the South and British led NATO troops move in. Afghans terrified of Taliban, fear reporting terror operations.

9. SAUDI ARABIA CIVIL DISTURBANCES FEARED as Iraqi civil war dominated by Shiites threatens to turn allegiance of 1.5 million Saudi Shia towards Shia-dominated Iran.

10. IRAQ ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND refugees flee since 22 February blast destroyed Shia shrine in Samarra. CIVIL WAR fears prompt U.S. politicians to call for partitioning country into three separate countries – Shia, Sunni and Kurd.

11. EGYPT SINAI TERRORISTS STRIKE for third time in last 18 months, this time bombing tourists in Red Sea resort town of Dahab during Easter gatherings: 23 killed and 62 wounded.

12. SUDAN GENOCIDE CONTINUES as 2 million have fled their homes. African Union troops overwhelmed as rebels strike at civilians and humanitarian workers. UNARMED AID workers continue to reduce death rates and malnutrition, but can only reach 40% of the population because of rebel attacks.

Shining Path guerillas, fights for power

with Alan Garcia, former president

who trashed the economy and was

Support our Troops!

responsible for rampant war crimes.

13. NIGERIA DELTA REGION TRIBAL insurgents declare war against government.

14. SOMOLIA RELIGIOUS-FANATIC **GOVERNMENT MILITIAS fights warlords in** religious power plays. **15. ZIMBABWE** FOOD CRISIS and economic collapse triggers unrest: Military beat 18 demonstrating students. DICATOR MUGABE raises military pay 300 percent to keep their loyalty. 16. VENEZUELA DRUG TRAFFICKING CENTER to Europe heavily infiltrated with al-Queda operatives. (IS OF EVIL is Washington, according to Chavez. Axis of Good includes Fidel Castro, Bolivia's Evo Morales and Chavez. ARMED FORCES DETERIORATING from lack of training and equipment. 17. COLOMBIA FIFTY FARG NARCOTERRORISTS, including entire top 18. PERU TORN BETWEEN leaders and 43 commanders, indicted TWO MADMEN — military thug Ollanta and set for extradition for exporting \$25 billion of cocaine. Thugs shoot, stab, Humala, said to have tortured and dismember alive, cut open bodies and killed peasants during Peru's war with

fill them with rocks and sink in rivers

million offered for info on higher-ranked

anyone who violates their rules. \$5

rebels and \$2.5 million for 17 others.



A New Figure Looms Next To the Legendary Figures of the Heroic Infantryman, Specops, Fighter Pilot and Other Celebrated Heroes. By Dr. Martin Brass

"On 29 September, 2004, one month and one day after I arrived in theatre, the day began as usual with the morning reveille, weapons

maintenance, vehicle maintenance, and then personal maintenance.

"Iraq was my first overseas mission," SSgt Michael F. Barrett, said. In a different time and place, the handsome, ruddy chap with the devilish, easy smile, could have been the reckless adventurer.

But he had seen and suffered the hell of war.

"We had already been on over forty IED missions since arriving in the sandbox," the seasoned Marine and former drill instructor from the Marine Corps Recruit Depot in San Diego, said.

"We had to be ready 24-7, which meant that trucks and weapons came before personal care. Calls came in 24

M1114 Up-Armored Humvees like this one feature Complete Perimeter Ballistic Protection, Front and Rear Anti-Tank Mine Protection, Transparent Armor, and a roof-mounted Gunner Shield.

hours a day."

"We had two teams always ready, because one team could be out there 17 hours and a second set of vehicles had to be ready to take over," Gunny

> Sgt. William Neudauer, a nononsense, strong featured, muscular blond, his brow deeply furrowed by responsibility had been with Barrett in Iraq.

> GySgt Neudauer has been stationed in San Diego for 13 of his 16 years of service in the Marines.

For 22-1/2 months he was stationed in Okanawa. He sailed the Pacific from one port to another on a West Pac tour.

"We trained Republic of Korea (ROK) Marines and the

Of Baghaa

Thai Army.

He had spent 6 months in Iraq and was with Barrett through the night-mare that nearly ended Barrett's life and 13-year military career.

Waiting For the Call

"We received a call at 0900 hours from the 506 Mechanized Infantry which fell under I Marine Expeditionary Forces," SSgt Barrett's distressed face and grave voice were once more reliving the terror of that nearly fatal day.

"It was a suspected IED. Our team of 25 Military Police plus two Explosive Ordnance (EOD) technicians responded. We drove quite a ways into Caldea about five miles south of Ramada. We set up security for cordoning off the area so the EOD technicians could investigate the suspected IED.

"We set up these perimeters because our EOD team had been targeted by sniper fire, and grenade launchers. The insurgents were aggressively going after the EOD Marines because insurgent bosses had put a bounty on our heads.

"WE WILL GET YOU, BOMB MAN"

"We were moving targets.

"Constantly, our patrols going through the city of Caldea or other areas reported seeing Arabic graffiti painted on walls. The Human Intelligence Interrogation Team (HIIT) interpreted the scribbles.

"We will get you Bomb Man', the angry scrawling threatened. The insurgents had been watching the EOD guys deactivate their IEDs. So they became familiar with whom we were, and observed our techniques. We became known as the Bomb Men," Barrett said.

"The locals described us as an aggressive force that reacted quickly and moved methodically to disrupt and destroy insurgent plans and operations,"

the forceful Neudauer said with the pride and conviction that has maintained the legendary image of the U.S. Marines.

"They said we went into an area with great force, took no slack and set up the best security possible. The insurgents were afraid to engage with us in any type of real contact-to-contact situations. So they used IEDs and sniper fire to avoid physical contact."

"Some people think what we do out there is crazy because we don't know what's going to happen. Every time we went out there, we were going to a bomb. But the way we looked at it, when we went out there and diffused

Continued on page 46



SOF publisher Robert K. Brown and his Brother, Alan are flanked by Neudauer, on the far left and Barrett on the right as they conduct traing exercises in the Yuma desert.

Chasing IEDs in the Desert

By Dr. Martin Brass

We joined the Marines while they were training in the Arizona Desert.

"Hang on its going to be a bumpy ride," Neudauer said.

No joke. The week in the desert was packed with heart stopping, knuckle busting, spine-crushing desert vehicle maneuvers.

We could barely see from the dust cloud he raised.

"Its dust storms ten times more vicious than this that take down helos in Iraq," Barrett said.

"See how much quicker the Humvees are in driving on a road like this," Barrett pointed out as the pickup we were riding in was sliding all over the dry desert sand.

"An Army convoy is rolling through an area where an IED detonated as the last vehicle of their convoy was passing." Neudauer was setting the scene for the IED training exercise.

"As far as we know, there have been no casualties and the convoy is still mobile. We are responding to a call that a secondary live 155 mm live IED on the side of the road must be disarmed, detonated, and or removed," he said.

"The EOD vehicle in the middle provides high back security." The armed Marine was situated high above the top of the Humvee.

"We are making contact with the

over watch Army or Marines for this scenario. The Marines point their weapons to provide 360 security. Each vehicle is separated from 75-100 meters so that if an IED would explode, it would not take out the whole element. In a daisy chain scenario, multiple IEDs that are linked to each other can take out a 6-14 vehicle convoy. When one detonates, the oth-

ers go off like a domino effect. It's a common approach the insurgents are using. They reshape the curbs and actually stuff ordnance inside the curb. They put ordnance inside on and off ramp guardrails. The daisy chain can



hit multiple vehicles.

"Notice the grid co-ordinates they were given," he said. "The lead vehicle will stop 500-750 meters back from the reported IED position.

"All vehicles are in constant communication with headsets. We are in constant inter-communications, so everybody can hear everybody. The relay goes all the way back like a domino effect. The point man could see an individual along the side of the road which is strewn everywhere, all of those could be IEDs," Neudauer warned. "We have to be on full watch for people, freshly dug up piles of dirt, an antenna sticking up out of the earth. One time, a155 artillery round was attached to a cell phone ready to detonate. Because the device jammed, the Marines were saved.

"It was Gunny Alexander's cell phone. Just as they finished disarming it, the phone rang, which would

have detonated it," Barrett added.

We watched as the Marines were checking for IEDs around the area. They were fully exposed in the stark desert, so some of them crawled on their bellies, others stooped close to the ground, scoping out the vast open wasteland.

The signal came to remount, one up, two up, three up.

"Someone probably saw another device and said that it is

not safe, so we are moving back to a safe distance," Neudauer said. Our vehicle had now become the lead vehicle. "That's when I got hit,

when my humvee became the second

"That pile of rocks, that bush, that hole dug in with dirt, a dead animal, street lights, donkey carts, the trash, which is strewn everywhere, all of those could be IEDs."

with an AK 47 and relay a message all the way to the last vehicle providing rear security.

"That pile of rocks, that bush, that hole dug in with dirt, a dead animal, street lights, donkey carts, the trash, vehicle on the way back, whereas it was in second from the rear on the way to the IED call. That way the risk is spread out among the vehicles," Barrett explained.

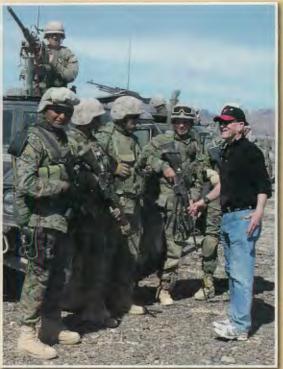
"We moved a short distance until the communication came to dismount. Everyone got back out and started again, making sure the area was clear of a secondary bomb.

"Lt. Reiney was in contact with EOD deciding a game plan to execute the mission. EOD is going up to the first vehicle to make contact and find out where the IED is," Neudauer described the mission step by step.

"Much of Iraq is like the Yuma desert with dirt roads, the roads that we have to travel, that's why it is so important to have the desert experience before deploying over[to Iraq]," Barrett explained. "Actually the conditions here are

often worse than Iraq, so that's good, preparing them for the worst."

The worst is the real theater of Iraq with IEDs that are hidden in nature, in structures, in rotten, infested trash,



or on the body of a suicidal maniac. The IED can be buried along the road, impossible to see in the dark, shadowing night of the foreboding desert, as the exhausted Marine MPs continue their almost impossible mission of stalking the veiled enemy.

IEDs are the cause of more than half the nearly 2500 military deaths in Iraq.

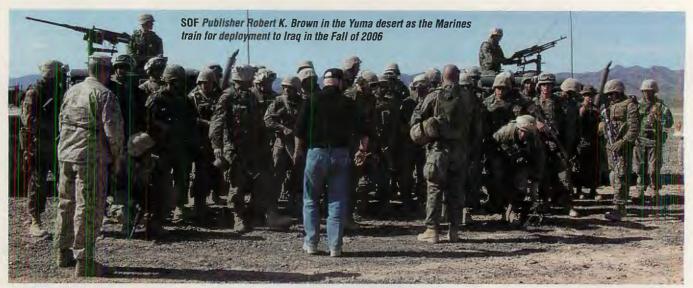
From July 03 through Jan 2005, the average deaths were less than 20 per month. Since Feb 2005, when the deaths spiked to 38, the average deaths have spiked to over 35 per month, in Nov 2005, with the most deaths numbering 59 in one month, according to casualties.org.

In the spring of 2004, almost every IED attack resulted in a dead or wounded soldier.

That rate has dropped to one in four because of a "holistic approach" that includes the improved vehicle and body armor, electronic jammers and better training, according to Bloomberg.net

That's why the Marines were spending six grueling weeks in the scorching desert in austere conditions before deploying to the Sandbox.





BOMB MEN • Continued from page 43

a situation, we would save the lives of many other people on patrol. As Military Police we are taught to serve and protect with honor, courage, and commitment," Neudauer described the force that gave them momentum as they faced some of the most dangerous battle situations any warrior could imagine.

The Mad Mortar Man of the Deck of Cards

"Every week, a vehicle, whether Army or Marine, got hit. The local insurgents are former Baathist party extremists," Neudauer, who was listening intently to every word as if the story was being told for the first time, said.

"One captured guy was nicknamed the 'mad mortar man' and he was one of Saddam's leading artillery experts that lived in the area. He was one of the Deck of Cards."

His shrewd, authoritative eyes were seething with repulsion, and although he refrained from calling the hit and run bombers cowards, the implication was clear.

It's a War of "Hide the Bomb and Run"

"We finished the call that morning. It had been a false call and since we saw no IED or threat, we headed back," Barrett's thoughts were back in Iraq, his eyes fixed in an uneasy gaze, as if he was still trying to figure out what had gone wrong or if he could have done things differently.

"One third of the calls we get are false," Neudauer said.

"We mounted back up in the Humvee and continued our patrol to turn back to the base," Barrett continued. I became the second vehicle in the 6-team convoy back, switching from the fourth position on the drive out. The

convoy usually had 5 MPs and one EOD vehicle."

"We traveled back for a short distance, thinking we were in the clear, at least for the moment, when an IED exploded, blowing up my humvee. They later told me it was a 155 mm shell with some form of incendiary gas device attached to it. The explosion created a massive fireball.

"Our vehicle was on fire and made a 360 degree spin on the road, but we were all conscious.

"What the hell was that?' the driver shouted.

"We just got hit!' another hollered out.

"We were on fire, surrounded by flames," Barrett was agitated as he pulled up his sleeve and ran his left hand lightly over the scarred right arm.

Then he ran his fingers gently along his slightly misshapen right ear that had been charred. "My right eardrum



Barrett's humvee after the IED detonated. Note the bent roof and sagging doors. Miraculously, all the Marines inside survived.

was damaged. The Oakley glasses protected my eyes or I might have lost those," he replayed the blazing scene once more in his head, cringing at the unimaginable, horrifying thought of loosing his sight.

Over 200 U.S. military personnel have lost all or part of their sight in

Iraq.

He took off the sunglasses that were protecting his eyes from the harsh Yuma desert sun and handled them reverently as if somehow it were a magic shield.

"He gave it to me before I went," he looked over gratefully at Neudauer with whom

he had formed a lifelong bond that only those who have pulled each other through grave danger can. "I sent those same pair of glasses to my friend when he deployed and he came back with them," he said with the satisfaction of a good commander driven by a sharp protective instinct.

"Someone Had to Get My Guys Out"

"All I could think of is that we had to get out. I felt my skin being charred, but I didn't feel anything else. I had to get out of the truck and get my Marines out before they burned alive. I had to see who was injured and provide medical treatment.

"I popped the handles on my door on the right. As I stepped out, I heard my right leg snap underneath me and I fell."

He stepped forward, tripping to the ground, re-enacting how the fractured leg had buckled underneath him.

He was still limping and obviously still aching, although the pain has "decreased significantly from an excruciating scale but it is still present. Some days are better than others."

"My femur was broken but I was totally coherent. I looked around to see where my Marines were. I had to get my guys out. Every single Marine on the convoy team reacted instantly. They immediately set up security and began to provide buddy aid to every Marine in my truck.

"Somehow, I had managed to get out of the vehicle that was engulfed in flames on my own. Someone came over and grabbed me by my jacket and dragged me away from the flames



Barrett's front passenger seat before and after the blast from an IED. The armored doors withstood the explosion, although armored windows are gone.

and leaned me up against a truck while the rest of my team was being assisted.

"I Wish I Knew Who the Army Medic Was"

"Three of the five in our humvee were seriously wounded and the others were trying to decide whether to medivac and whether we could safely get the bird in or not. They decided to ground medivac. Three Marines picked me up and put me on the hood of a Humvee. They wrapped barbwire around the sides of the top of the vehicle to hold me in place. Every second counted. Lieutenant Destry jumped up on the hood and was holding on to me for support.

"An Army medic showed up. I wish I knew who he was. I'd like to meet him. I think about him every day," he said.

He got excited when we said that maybe someone reading the account in SOF would find the medic that helped save his life.

"I don't know what the Army medic came up in. All of a sudden, he was there. Sgt Snyder jumped up on the hood with me," Barrett said.

"They showed up in a Bradley," Neudauer recalled.

"Lt. Destry leaned up against the windshield. Barrett was lying in wire on the hood. Destry was holding on to Barrett's vest, his other arm on the Army medic who was doing an IV on him as he was going 45 miles an hour.

The two demonstrated how the team had hoisted Barrett up on the

hood, with one Marine straddled on the side to make sure no one fell off.

"I was telling the lieutenant 'we need to get out of here. We've got to get the Marines to the surgical shock trauma platoon back at al-Taqaedum (TO)." Barrett said.

"We were driving back, three of us on the hood. I kept asking about my Marines. He reassured me they were fine. I refused the morphine the medic was trying to give me. I said 'no, I need to maintain my clarity'.

"It Sounded Like I Was Being Rushed Into a Ballgame"

"It's a good thing. I found out later I had lost almost four pints of blood. "I could have bled out and died."

"He was bleeding internally to his lower calf. His vein had severed," Neudauer, who had been notified of the attack by that time, piped in.

"I was so mad I couldn't help. But I could wiggle my toes, I had some kind of connection going on, so I figured I was good to go. I figured I'd probably be able to keep this thing," Barrett pointed to his injured leg.

"It took 15 minutes to get back to the base. I was immediately offloaded onto a stretcher into the working ER. It sounded like I was being rushed into a ball game. There was a thundering noise. They began to take all my gear off. Boots disappeared. Trousers were shredded. The bright light became a dark light and I was under," Barrett remembered going under.

"He was in surgery for three to four hours. I got there as he was going under," Neudauer said.



Neudauer, center and Barrett far right wait for the call with their team in Iraq.

"They removed veins from my left leg to repair the femoral artery that was severed," Barrett said.

"They explained that they used a plastic shunt to connect the artery until he got to Germany," Neudauer said.

"A Wallet Saved His Ass"

"While I was in there, the head surgeon took out a big piece of shrapnel imbedded in his wallet and told me to give it back to him and tell him that a wallet saved his ass. Literally saved his ass," Neudauer still got a kick out of telling that part of the story.

"I woke up from surgery as I was being loaded into a helicopter. A friend of mine who was a drill instructor with me in the same company helped load me up

"Staff Sgt Armendariz came there half way through his surgery, Neudauer said. "He got up with me and asked if there was anything we could do. He waited inside the emergency room with me to help load him up. The surgeons are unbelievable. I watched as they had his leg open and as this male navy nurse gave me the shrapnel, enough to fill the inside of a urinal cup. I gave it to him later so

he could know what happened. The nurse said it would help him in the recovery time.

"Simultaneously, Lance Corporal Crystal Lawliss was being operated on for a femoral break and second and third degree burns.

"She had taken a different path. My turret gunner was also in another area. Lance Corporal Castillo was being operated on for shrapnel that went through his left leg then through the right leg.

"I talked to Castillo while Mike was in surgery. He was all stitched up. Their main concern with him was to keep the deep holes and gashes sterile. The shrapnel chopped up his muscle but missed the artery. He did not want to go home. He begged to stay, but the medical officer said he had to go because it was not as sterile there in Iraq. They could not risk infection.

"The room where they operated on is sterile and takes a long way to get in, though several hallways, before you could get to the sterile surgery room" Barrett said.

"Each time they do surgery it's a whole new kit, with all the drop cloths, towels, blankets." Neudauer stressed the importance of proper sterilization.

"They wrapped him up like a burrito with his blanket. The rest of the medical kit, they threw into a HAZMAT dumpster to be destroyed."

"The day I was hit and received surgery at TQ, I was taken to SSTP in Balad outside Baghdad to receive additional care, like IV nutrients for a day and transported to Germany after three days. They finished repairing the Femoral artery in Landstuhl Germany and inserted a titanium rod through the femur that had screws above my kneecap as well as at the very top near the hip to stabilize my femoral for the journey back to the United States.

"I was treated for all sorts of infections. It's real dirty there. The soil is infested with germs and the type of injury I had required great care. Once I got back, I went to an infectious medicine ward since the wounds got infected and I was quarantined. Even with my wife, I had to have a mask.

The Up Armored Humvee Saved Our Lives

"My wife actually got up on to the plane. They heard immediately after

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"The up armored Humvee is a major reason why all of us are alive today. We had gotten them just that

week.

"They took me to Balboa in San Diego hospital for two weeks then rehabilitation at Paradise Valley. They have a great team down there.

"I could never have gotten back to where I am by myself. The support of my family, friends, Marines within the command, my guys over there still continue to motivate me to get back into the fight as soon as possible.

Getting back to the Corps was my main motivation through all this.

"My wife, my Mom, my Dad, and my Grandfather were all in the Marine Corps," he said.

"My wife slept next to me in the chair for four weeks.

"Lt Rainey, currently military police OIC took his personal time. He helped me to where I could physically perform and get over the major obstacles. He didn't have to, but every day he worked with me."

"The first time I was able to talk to him in Germany after he became coherent," Neudauer said. "His first words were 'how are my Marines' and 'am I going to be able to reenlist?' In my mind anyone who had gone through what he went through, that thought would be the last thing on his mind. That just threw me for a loop.

"I was stunned, thinking 'did he just say that?"

"I said 'of course you could'.

"As of the 16th of this month, I was finally able to re-enlist for four years. I had planned that when I was in Iraq, but the injury kept me back for 533 days," Barrett had kept an agonizing count.

The two are going back to Iraq together in August.

Barrett is anxious to finish the job he felt cheated out of, which Neudauer had completed, in spite of one close call, when he took shrapnel to the face and hand.

"I Never Wanted A Purple Heart"

"I never had wanted a purple heart, because I knew what one represented.

Neudauer's mind still raced with six and a half months of memories Continued on page 58

Organizational Structure of a Marine Wing Support Squadron

The Marine Military Police and EOD Technicians discussed in the following two articles are part of a Marine Wing Support Squadron (MWSS) that provides Aviation Ground Support (AGS) to a task organized Marine Aviation Combat Element (ACE). There are normally four MWSS' that support a Marine Aircraft Wing.

An MWSS provides 14 doctrinal functions of AGS to the ACE, as well as numerous non-doctrinal functions in support of Marine Air Ground Task Force (MAGTF) when tasked.

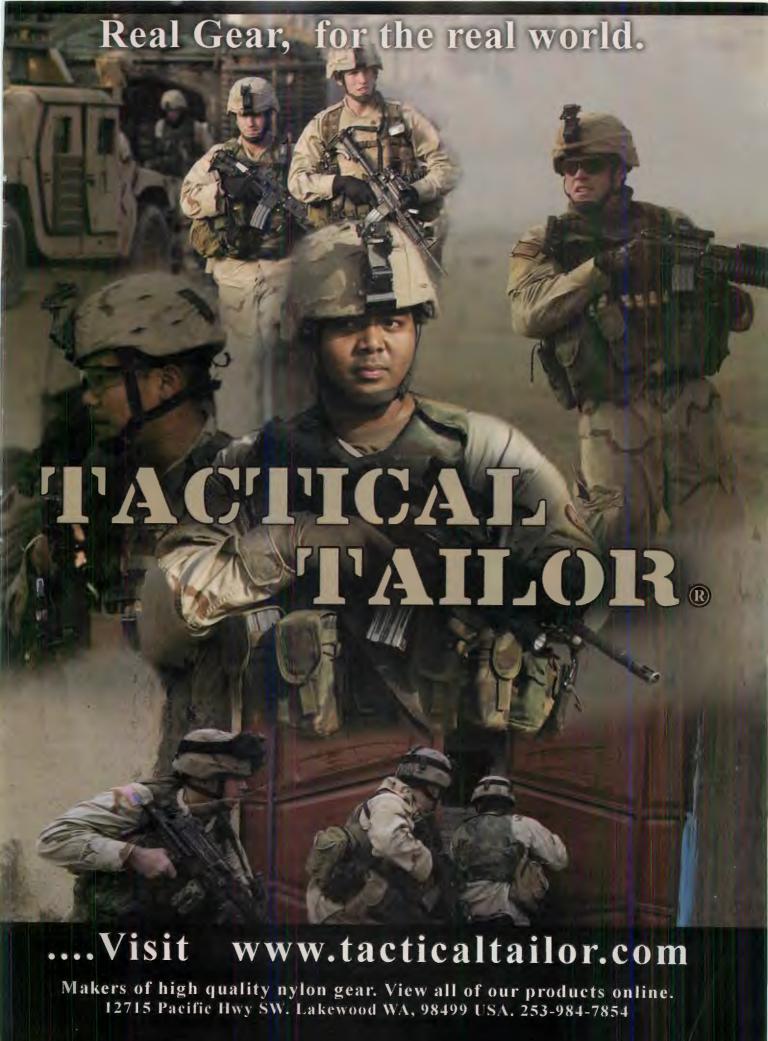
The following are the 14 AGS doctrinal functions:

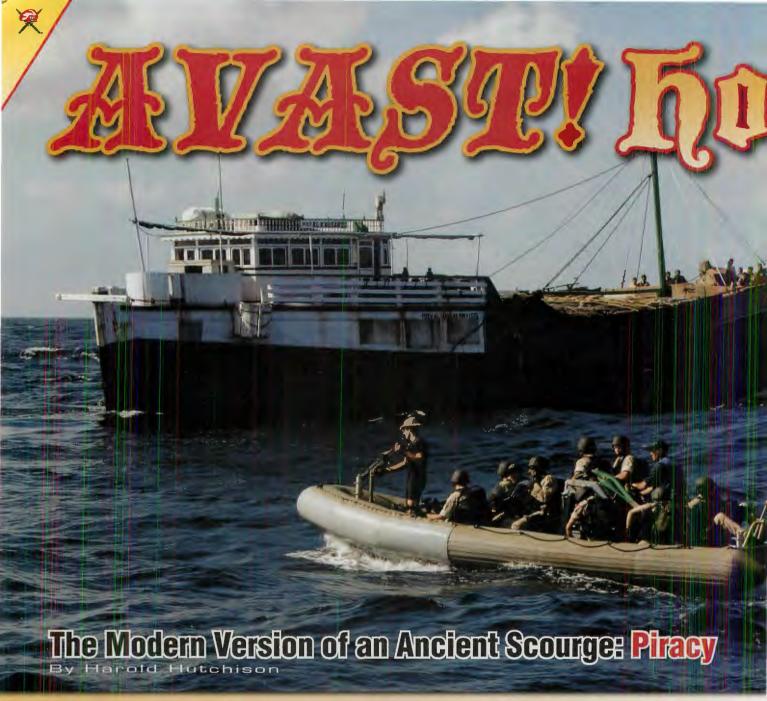
- Security
- Explosive ordnance disposal (EOD).
- Combat Engineering.
- Aircraft Rescue and Fire Fighting.
- Motor transport (MT).
- · Aircraft and ground refueling.
- Expeditionary Air Field services.
- Internal airfield communications.
- Weather services.
- Field messing facilities.
- Medical functions.
- Individual and unit training of organic personnel and selected personnel of support units.
- Nuclear, biological, and chemical (NBC) defense.
- Air base commandant functions.

While Marines of an MWSS are normally in direct support of the ACE, they can often be in general support of the MAGTF or have select functions in general support of the MAGTF as is the case for their EOD, MPs, and Combat Engineers.

The EOD mission contributes to the mobility of the MAGTF by providing access to terrain, installations, and facilities otherwise denied due to hazards from unexploded ordnance (UXO). EOD units neutralize the hazards associated with UXO that are beyond the capabilities of other specialties. EOD personnel provide ordnance technical intelligence and improvised explosive device (IED) response. The EOD mission is accomplished by detecting, identifying, rendering safe, recovering, evaluating, disassembling, and final disposition of conventional weapons, NBC weapons, and IEDs. EOD units possess the capability to perform their mission in every environment.

The MWSS military police (MP) platoon provides ground security to the ACE. The primary mission of the MWSS MP sat a Forward Operating Base or a Forward Arming Refueling Point (FARP) is to provide flight line security and security to critical ACE activities. Additionally, the MP platoon will provide convoy security for FARP Teams, Downed Aircraft Recovery Teams, and Rapid Runway Repair Teams, mobile security patrols, crowd control, enemy prisoner of war handling, and mobile reaction forces. Because of their unique capabilities and training, MWSS MPs are ideally suited to provide security for the MWSS EOD technicians and together make a formidable Incident Response Team (IRT) in support of the MAGTF Ground Combat Element.





iracy is on the rise again - becoming a concern as it was in the early 19th century, when the United States went to war with the Barbary pirates on two occasions (1801-1805 and 1815). These were, for all intents and purposes, real wars - in some cases involving deployments ashore and blockade operations. The pirates, who focused their attacks on merchant ships (usually to get their hands on the cargo - and in some cases, the ship itself), often found themselves on the short end of the stick against the United States (or other) Navy.

As has often been the case, such sea-going thugs are brave against helpless targets, but when someone can fight back, their butts get ham-

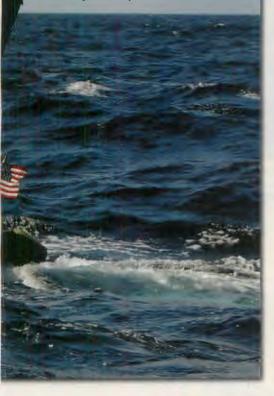
mered. Piracy eventually declined, often because it was hard to tell if the sails in the distance were a merchant ship or a frigate belonging to the United States Navy, Royal Navy, or some other navy. Piracy is a jus gentium matter – an offense against the law of nations. In other words, any nation that can catch pirates can deal with them – if they will. In theory, at least, there is no safe harbor for a pirate.

Modern pirates have learned from this historical experience. These days, the gangs rely on short-range speedboats and attack in places like the South China Sea, or off the coast of Somalia (where one pirate band came out the losers in a firefight with the U.S. Navy this past March). Piracy has also occurred off Bangladesh, Nigeria, Iraq (six attacks since April, 2005 despite coalition naval units in the area), and the Straits of Malacca. These are areas where law enforcement (or military presence) is low, non-existent, or where the cops can be paid off or intimidated into looking the other way when pirates are doing their thing.

The latest circular from the International Maritime Organization (for December, 2005) reported 21 attacks or attempted attacks by pirates. In most cases, these attacks or attempts met with some measure of success (meaning cargo, ship stores, and equipment were stolen). Even failed attacks can result in injuries or death to members of a ship's crew.

The Deliner

A visit, board, search and seizure team from USS Carter Hall (LSD 50) approaches an Indian cargo dhow M.S.V. Al-Kausar to conduct a master-consent boarding in the Indian Ocean. If the team finds no evidence of piracy, terrorism or smuggling the vessel will be cleared for its destination. DoD photo by PO2 Michael Sandberg, U.S. Navy



The New Old Problem

The pirates of the 21st century are usually equipped with guns (including assault rifles like the AK-47) or knives. Shoulder-fired missiles, such as the ubiquitous RPG, often act as a force multiplier for small bands of otherwise impotent brigands. The pirates of today also have a few advantages: First, target identification is much easier. Warships tend to look like a warship, since their evolution has been very different from civilian vessels. This means that merchant vessels and civilian vessels also are easily identified at a greater distance. Pirates also have the initiative. They decide when they will attack, and what their target will be. Finally, they

tend to melt away into the coast when the heat is too high. Like terrorists, they rarely wear uniforms, enabling them to hide among civilians. Often, their selection of watercraft means that they can blend into the normal civilian traffic. Thus, hunting them can be a difficult task – a wrong guess will lead to civilian casualties, bad coverage on CNN, and payment of compensation.

Much like terrorists, pirates will only have to get lucky on one occasion to succeed. Merchant vessels, on the other hand, will require constant good fortune to avoid becoming the victim. Heeding occasional calls to send warships will not necessarily solve the piracy issue. First, there is the fact that the pirates can tell that

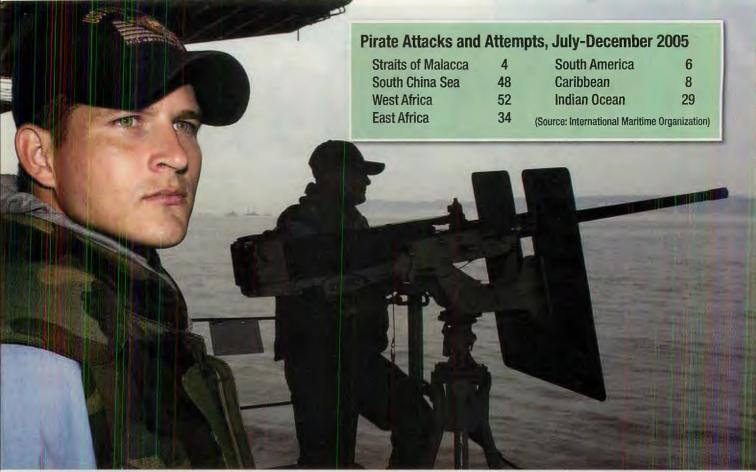


In 1801, the Barbary states (Algiers, Tunis, Tripoli, and Morocco – technically part of the Ottoman Empire, but really autonomous states) made their usual demand for tribute to the United States – something that the fledgling country had been willing to pay, at first due to domestic discord, then later out of habit. This was despite the fact that the United States Navy was emerging as a force to be reckoned with during the 1798-1800 undeclared war with French privateers.

What changed for the Barbary pirates in 1801 was a new American Administration. That year, Thomas Jefferson had become President of the United States. He had long disagreed with the notion of paying tribute, but his pleas had fallen on deaf ears. As President, however, Jefferson would be the person making the decisions on foreign policy. And he decided enough was enough. The United States would no longer be paying another dime of tribute. The United States Navy was heading to the Mediterranean to kick ass and take names until the Barbary pirates would leave American ships alone. After over a decade of ignoring the rising threat, America would deal with it.

By 1803, American forces maintained a blockade around Tripoli — one of the two states that held out against the newly assertive Americans. The grounding of the USS Philadelphia in that harbor in September of that year touched off the battle of Tripoli. The Philadelphia was destroyed on 10 February 1804, to prevent its use by the Tripolitans. Later that year, the Americans attempted to destroy the Tripolitan fleet by using the USS Intrepid as a fire ship. The attempt failed, and the Mediterranean Squadron eventually turned its efforts into supporting an overland attack that ultimately forced Tripoli to sign a treaty in 1805 in which they agreed to stop attacking American ships.

However, when America got distracted with other problems (the British had started to impress American seamen – one of these attempts resulted in a bad incident involving the USS Chesapeake, and began the process that led to the War of 1812), several of the Barbary States began carrying out pirate attacks. After the war of 1812 was finished, the United States Navy paid another visit to the Barbary Coast and proceeded to adjust attitudes there in 1815, getting a second treaty signed, which was honored. – H.H.



Harking back to the days when merchant vessels mounted cannon to fend off pirates when attacked, modern vessels may have to individually fight piracy again. The old-soldier Ma Deuce .50, left, or the GAU-17 minigun, right, could quickly take the profit out of piracy on the high seas where there is little or no practical naval or police presence, and their deadly firepower is readily switched from one vessel to another. DoD photo by PO3 Lamel J. Hinton, USN

a ship is a warship at a greater distance than they could in the early 19th century. Warships today have a hard job to masquerade as merchant vessels (as in the 2003 film Master and Commander). They simply look too different. Deception operations will not work, either. Most of the pirates who might have been dumb enough to mistake a present-day warship for a merchant ship probably were killed off a long time ago (a few are still around, like the ones who lost the firefight with the USS Gonzalez this past March). This means that taking out pirates can largely be a matter of luck, good intelligence, or both.

Dealing With the Problem

So, how can the modern-day pirates be dealt with? Already, some merchant ships and ocean liners are being equipped with non-lethal weapons to make them tougher targets. A sonic weapon was used in the successful repulsion of a pirate attack on the cruise liner *Seabourn Spirit* in November, 2005. In that incident, one crewmember was wounded. Still, it was an incident that could have been much worse. Anti-boarding equipment such as electrified gunwale fences are now

being installed on some vessels.

International shipping will also sail as far away from the coast of hot spots as possible (pirates primarily rely on visual acquisition of targets – usually using small boats). Reducing the number of successful attacks will make it harder for the pirates to recruit new members and to get the supplies they need (pirates often will take the cargo and sell it, or they take prisoners and ransom them for money – or they will steal stores or spare parts from the ships). Simply by toughening up the targets, the attacks have less of a chance of succeeding.

This is an answer to be implemented over the long term, since there are more than 85,000 vessels that displace 100 tons or more in maritime trade. Giving each of these ships systems like those used to repel the attack on the Seabourn Spirit will take a lot of time. Also, not every merchant vessel owner will be able to afford these systems. The ones who can afford them will be safer. The ones that can't, and are already on the edge, will find themselves more vulnerable to pirates – and more likely to face the consequences of a successful attack.

Surveillance is another option.

UAVs like the RQ-1A Predator and the RQ-4 A Global Hawk can provide a great deal of surveillance where pirates are known to operate. Often, they can fly high enough that they are not readily visible. They also have endurance that exceeds conventional maritime patrol aircraft. This gives them persistence, meaning that pirates will have fewer chances to make their raids unobserved. These assets can follow the pirates to their bases, and that will help cue in military forces to where the pirates are based. Attacking the pirates in their lairs will make it easier to wipe them out, particularly since it ensures that the bulk of a given gang can be captured at one time.

Catching a Hit and Run

The problem is getting military forces there in time to take down the pirates before they make their getaway. If forces do not happen to be strategically placed, all that will be accomplished is gathering data that an attack has happened, and an idea of where bases were. To maintain intelligence, observers in every arena where pirates are active would require a pro-

Continued on page 66

Gear or Jus



Farnam's Gunslinger Diary

By John Farnam

Sage comments from a friend and student in the Philippines on the subject of the true goal of training:

"At the moment of truth, the ancient Filipino warrior entered 'Dakip-Diwa.' It is similar, of course, to the Chinese 'Mushin,' or 'pure mind.' Dakip-Diwa literally means 'to seize the spirit.' The warrior no longer just sees himself facing opponents. Rather, he comprehends only the concept of combat itself: angles of attack, scenarios of engagement, and, of course, personal and final victory. Dakip-diwa thus eliminates fears that cause hesitation. Not many of even my own countrymen know this, currently. This is reflective of the liberalization of Philippine society, thanks mainly to Western influences, no disrespect intended.

Clashes here, on all levels, tend to be bloody. From street fights to military operations against insurgents, pernicious contacts are savage and final. We are extreme as a people. Extreme in friendship and hospitality on one hand. Extreme in ferociousness in combat on

the other.

With the foregoing in mind, folklore regarding the .45ACP pistol cartridge is mostly that. The real reason for the poor reputation of the .385&W pistol (used by American Troopers during the Spanish-American War and progenitor to the .38Spl) and, in later years, the .223 rifle, is substantially due to poor marksmanship, born of panic, rather than inadequate terminal ballistics of the cartridges in question, although the latter is still a significant factor.

In our Muslim-dominated South, tales abound about insane warriors with shaved heads and bound limbs (in order to control bleeding and minimize pain) wearing vials of magic oil around their necks (which renders them immune to bullets). This talk reached young, inexperienced troops who comprised the bulk of our armed force responsible for quelling numerous insurgencies of the

Imagine being in their shoes! Fresh from (inadequate) training, under shaky leadership, you're in the middle of some forsaken bush and are suddenly charged by a screaming, bolo-wielding maniac! The experience understandably shook recruits, and they missed their shots while rebels connected with stabs and hacks. Thus, the 'legend,' first arising from tales told by American soldiers at the beginning of the last century, was, once again, resurrected.

Conversely, under surefooted and inspired leadership, and when employing sound tactics, heavy calibers, and eminent personal competence, experienced troops engaged these same fanatics and got good hits, the 'invincible' insurgents were speedily neutralized. Timely, wellplaced shots convincingly and satisfyingly solved this 'problem.'

There are surely inadequate calibers and, even in adequate calibers, poor manifestations thereof, and I therefore encourage everyone to carry and train with powerful arms and ammunition. However, there is no adequate technological substitute for personal competence and unwavering determination. Incompetent, confused, and uninspired soldiers will always perform poorly, no matter what they're equipped with.

These are truths, precisely because they've stood the tests of time and successfully resisted countless attempted revisions. We'd all do well to apply them to our individual circumstances.'

Comment: Soldiers who have spent

most of their "training" time in "Sensitively," "Sexual Harassment Awareness," and "Suicide Prevention" classes, and precious little time handling loaded weapons on hot ranges, will understandably perform poorly when faced with the foregoing. Trainers and leaders need to be long on inspiration and short on PC fluff! We need to be turning out hard, harmful, serious, competent, determined heavy hitters. We can't have too many. Right now, we have far too few! 🛪

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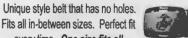
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of the heroics, the close calls— one in which he suffered injuries— the deaths and casualties and the grueling, and extensive, exhausting missions wrought with danger at almost every turn.

"In Iraq, my job was Staff NCOIC with the MPs, as well as anti terrorism force protection officer.

"I was team leader for an Incident Response Team (IRT) attached to the 3rd Light Armored Reconnaissance Regiment in Operation Phantom Fury. For two weeks, we cleared IEDs that were planted along the main supply routes in the outskirts of Fallujah.

"We conducted one helicopter recovery, with four cobra helicopters providing our over watch. One of the Cobras took a direct hit from an SA-7 rocket. The pilot got hit with shrapnel and suffered a broken leg, but was still able to make the landing safely. He saved the navigator's life and our Corpsman, MN2 Geronimo provided medical attention until a CH 46 helicopter landed and provided a medivac for him back to TQ.

"We pulled a security mission at the beginning of the second Fallujah Operation Phantom Fury. After the mission was complete, we were on the main supply route for another 16 hours attacked by insurgents and two more fire fights to the front. Dismounted infantry assisted us from two platoons—one to the right, one to the left. We had two tanks that were in the front providing security.

"The reason that we were doing this mission is that IEDs had taken out three vehicles—one carrying ammunition to re-supply the Marine units in Fallujah, and others conducting medevac missions. Three corpsmen and one injured Marine were killed.

"On our final mission in support of Phantom Fury, we had to clear over six miles, and it took 27 hours nonstop. We uncovered 30 IEDs and took indirect fire, sniper fire, and automatic gunfire.

"On our return mission, worn out and sleep deprived, we engaged in an enemy insurgent firefight to our front and to our right flank. Mortars and rockets flew everywhere. One mortar landed about 15 feet away from me, knocking me to the ground. I took shrapnel to my left arm and my right and left hand. A 120mm rocket landed two hundred feet away, then we got

hit with shrapnel. I administered first aid until the mission was over, then back in Al Taqaddum (TQ), I received medical attention.

"I came home March first, 2005. We landed at 02:00. I took thirty days to basically distress from seeing SSgt Mike Barrett's situation and other casualties we responded to. One Army patrol unit got hit by an IED. The guy had lost his left arm. We responded to IED attacks in Fallujah in which Marines were hit by shrapnel from IEDs. The stress kind of plays on you for a while."

It's a realistic Neudauer that is returning to Iraq.

"The first time, I went I was just excited. This time I'm half excited, half cautious. I've lived and seen what happened to people."

He has no illusions.

"The same vehicle Mike was riding in when he got hit I would ride in every other day. It could have been me. That played with my mind too," he said, a frozen look on his face as he braced himself for the mission, with the thought of his young daughter in the back of his mind.

For us who had spent the week with the Marines getting ready to deploy to Iraq, IEDs, by now a commonplace acronym, had taken on a new, treacherous meaning. We had glimpsed the frightening transformation the Iraqi war had made on the jobs of the MPs.

The Iraqi war fought in the desert had changed the nature of combat, just as the Vietnam War, fought in the deep jungles, had given a new meaning to guerilla warfare.

Just as WWII had produced a new form of perverted hero, the suicidal Japanese kamikaze pilots who sacrificed in the name of fame and glory, the Iraq War has produced another sick type of suicidal maniac, this time supposedly in the name of Allah.

The Marine MPs have become front men in a war in which the reckless, desert bomb kamikaze enemy has chosen the IED as the weapon of choice.

The Iraq war has added a new figure that soars next to the legendary figures of the heroic infantryman, SpecOps, fighter pilot and other celebrated heroes—that of the "Bomb Men." **

Dr. Martin Brass is an international lawyer and longtime SOF contributor.

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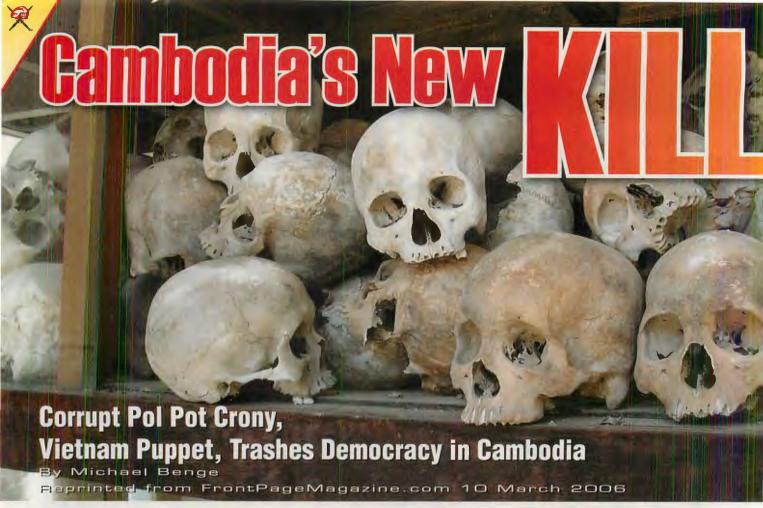
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While radical Islamists held a scimitar to the throat of freedom of expression over cartoons. Cambodian dictator Hun Sen was throttling those who dared speak out against his corruption and complicity in Vietnam's grab of Cambodia's border territory. Prime Minister Hun Sen is the epitome of the old adage that a tiger never changes his stripes. First by a coup d'état in 1997 in which over 100 members of the Royalist Party democrats were murdered, then through rigged elections, and now through his kangaroo courts, Hun Sen has managed to intimidate and silence all opposition to his fascist regime in Cambodia.

In his most recent coup against democracy, human rights, freedom of the press and freedom of speech, Hun Sen took a page right out of communist Hanoi's playbook by silencing all opposition to his regime. Hun Sen manipulated Cambodia's notoriously corrupt and incompetent court system to make it a criminal offense to criticize him or his regime. In February 2005, Hun Sen stripped parliamentary immunity from the leader of the main opposition party (SRP), Sam Rainsy, and two legislators, Cheam Channy and Chea Poch - both SRP party members. Rainsy and Poch fled

the country while Channy remained in Cambodia. In August 2005, Channy was given a seven-year prison sentence. Rainsy was tried in absentia by Hun Sen's kangaroo court and was given an 18-month jail-term.

Next, Hun Sen had the publisher of the leading opposition newspaper arrested and the paper shut down, for publishing articles critical of Hun Sen. He then had the director of the country's only independent radio station — Behive FM — arrested and charged with defaming him by broadcasting interviews criticizing Hun Sen for allowing Hanoi to gobble up a good portion of Cambodia's border territory.

Hun Sen then had several leading human rights advocates arrested and detained, including Kem Sokha, the president of the Cambodian Center for Human Rights, and his deputy, the director of the Community Legal Education Center and the president of the Cambodian Teachers' Association. Several others fled Cambodia, including a cousin and aide to Norodom Sihamoni, the new figurehead king. The latter acquiesced to Hun Sen's border gift to Hanoi, which then gave it a façade of legality. Hun Sen has a history of giving land to the Vietnamese.

Skulls of Khmer Rouge victims at the "killing fields" site at Choeung Ek. Harking back to the butchery of the Pol Pot regime, they can hardly be regarded as mere history, as the current ruler was one of Pol Pot's lieutenants. Photo: Adam Carr, via Wikipedia

Hun Sen is a creation of Hanoi's leaders, who installed him in power after Vietnam's 1978 invasion of Cambodia in an attempt to colonize that country. After 52,000 soldiers were killed and 200,000 wounded in Cambodia, Hanoi's army was on the verge of revolt. Hanoi had promised its soldiers that there would no more fighting once the U.S. left Vietnam and that soldiers would be rewarded with farmland. While Hanoi was withdrawing its army, Hun Sen stepped up to the plate for Hanoi and gave farmland in Eastern Cambodia to 100,000 demobilized Vietnamese soldiers, and made them instant citizens.

Ironically, Kem Sokha and the other critics of Hun Sen received worse treatment during their incarceration than did the notorious military chief for the Chinese-backed Pol Pot faction of the Khmer Rouge, the "Butcher" Ta Mok. The Butcher has a rather comfortable cell with a desk and bed and special meals, while the human rights activists shared crowded, ver-

min-and-mosquito infested cells with thieves and murderers. It is widely rumored in Cambodia that the reason that Ta Mok and the other Khmer Rouge leaders enjoy special privileges and have not been brought to trial, is that they have threatened to "rat out"

Hun Sen for his real role as a Khmer Rouge officer.

Allegiance of Long Standing

Hun Sen and another Cambodian communist party leader, Heng Samrin, were the Vietnamese-backed Khmer Rouge military leaders in charge of the Eastern Zone next to Vietnam, which also was rife with "killing fields." Hun Sen was also in charge of enforc-



ing the K-5 Plan during the Vietnamese invasion, also referred to as the "Petite Genocide," in which ordinary Cambodians were forced into the mine fields along the Thai border, and had the choice of either being blown up attempting to dig up the mines or being shot if they tried escape.

Furthermore, Hun Sen has enlisted several notorious Khmer Rouge military leaders into his present army, and given amnesty to Pol Pot's brother-in-law leng Sary, known as "Little Brother No. 2," who was cofounder and co-leader of Pol Pot's genocidal killing machine. Hun Sen rewarded Ing Sary and his fellow murders with a fiefdom rich in gems along the Thai border, an area now



filled with lucrative gambling casi-

The recent arrests were to silence the growing protest over the borderland giveaway, and to intimidate the opposition before Cambodia's upcoming elections. The border protests were an embarrassment to both Ha-

noi and Hun Sen. After the U.S. and other donor countries intervened on behalf of Kem Sokha and the other critics who had been arrested, Hun Sen made a sham gesture and said he forgave them and ordered their release. However, as soon as the pressure was off him, Hun Sen's kangaroo court said it could not drop the charges and they would still be prosecuted. Hun Sen sent a message to opposition leader Sam Rainsy that he would be allowed to return to Cambodia if Rainsy wrote a letter asking for clemency.

According to many of

his followers, Sam Rainsy acquiesced and surrendered his dignity in a pitiful letter to Hun Sen in which Rainsy confessed that all his accusations and criticisms were lies and begged forgiveness. For them, it's a shame that he fell into Hun Sen's trap and they now equate him to Neville Chamber-



The Tuol Sleng genocide Museum at Phnom Penh remembers the dark days of the Pol Pot/Khmer Rouge regime - but the country's largely very young population does not. And it is not polite to remind them their current ruler was a former Khmer Rouge functionary and a lieutenant of Pol Pot.

lin, saying Rainsy has betrayed his country, his followers, and his friends, and has now destroyed the only functioning opposition in Cambodia. Others say it is better for Rainsy to return to keep a political toehold in Cambodia than to live in exile in France. Hun Sen also had Parliamentarian

> Cheam Channy released from jail, and then Hun Sen asked, or rather directed, the figurehead King Norodom Sihamoni to pardon both Channy and Rainsy.

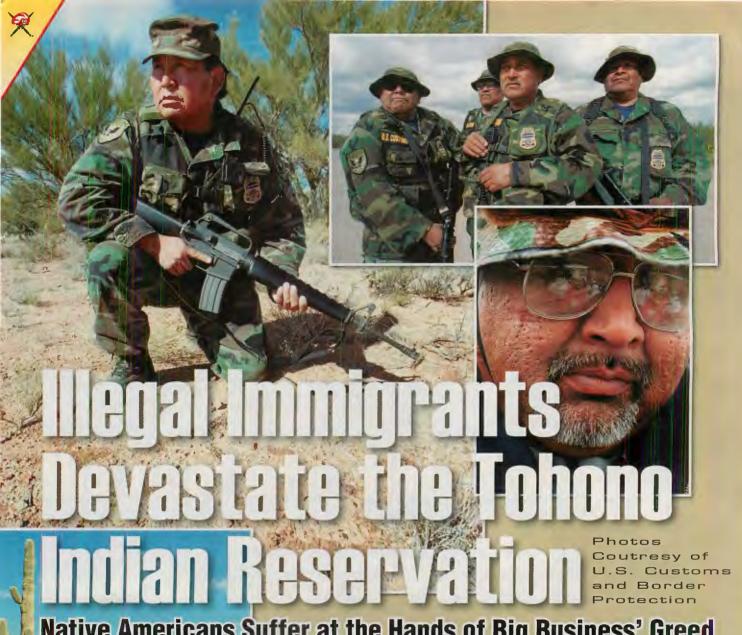
The Stick and the Carrot

As he did with Prince Ranariddth, the leader of the once-viable opposition Royal Party, Hun Sen first emasculated the opposition with false charges, prison sentences, and pardons, and then invited them back to the political trough to share in the wealth of rampant corruption. The release of the jailed

Continued on page 80







Native Americans Suffer at the Hands of Big Business' Greed

By Dr. Martin Brass



The 2.8 million acre Tohono O'Odham Reservation, the second largest in the United States, just west of Tucson, Arizona, is an illegal immigration battle ground.

It is a "border security crisis that has caused shocking devastation of our land and resources. ...illegal immigration levels have sky-rocketed causing a flood of crime, chaos and environmental destruction on our Reservation," Ned Norris, Jr., Vice-Chair Of The Tohono O'Odham Nation told

The reservation has become "a prime avenue of choice for undocumented immigrants and drug traffickers traveling into the United States. 1,500 immigrants illegally invade the Reservation daily, making it the "busiest corridor of illegal immigration in America

"The Nation's longest international border of any Tribe in the United States has created an unprecedented homeland security crisis for America,"

Don't Cross This Three-Strand Barbwire Fence

The border that stretches along the Reservation is 'protected' by a deteriorated three-strand barbwire fence that has been torn down repeatedly by the never-ending swarm of illegal immigrants.

There are 160 illegal passageways

A Senior Customs Patrol Officer looks across the desert after discovering a footprint, or sign in the desert. He will track them (Clockwise from top left) Using traditional Native American tracking techniques, these four Senior Customs Patrol Officers are personally responsible for hundreds of thousands of pounds of marijuana being interdicted on the Tohono O'Odham reservation in southern Arizona. 11 If this Senior Patrol Officer tracks a smuggler, you can count on an arrest. The four-wheel drive ATV has replaced the horse for the Customs Native American trackers.

along the 75 mile shared border with Mexico — in 36 locations there are no barriers at all.

The trespassers have trashed the reservation with garbage and litter, creating a sanitation catastrophe.

Six tons of trash per day is littered on the Reservation, resulting in 113 open pit dumps that need to be cleaned up.

The Nation, struggling for financial survival, diverted \$7 million from tribal revenues to try to maintain the sovereignty of the reservation from 2001 until June 2004.

The Nation blames the federal border security policy that concentrated on sending available agents and assets to close down key points of entry such as San Diego (CA), Yuma (AZ), and El Paso (TX).

The flood of immigrants just shifted gears, and headed for the defenseless reservation.

"Rather than preventing illegal immigration into America, this policy created a funnel effect causing the flow of undocumented immigrants, drug traffickers, and other illegal activity to shift to other less regulated spots on the border," Norris said.



The Reservation Becomes A Stolen Car Lot

"Tribal members live in fear for the safety of their families and their properties. Homes are broken into by those desperate for food, water and shelter.

The 28,000-member Nation fights hoards of illegal immigrant drug and human traffickers, robbers, and rapists.

The Nation's seventy-one member police force apprehended 71,700 illegal immigrants in 2002 and seized 65,000 pounds of illegal narcotics.

In 2003, police confiscated over 100,000 pounds of illegal drugs.

From October 2003 to June of 2004, 180,000 pounds of narcotics were seized. 130,000 pounds of marijuana were seized by the end of 2004.

The police enforcement efforts cost \$3 million dollars through mid 2004, but a bigger cost is the corruption of Indian teens and other tribe members.

Drug traffickers offer the unemployed and poverty stricken Indians thousands of dollars to smuggle in their drugs, running carloads of drugs outside of the reservation. In addition to turning into criminals and ruining their lives, many of them have become addicts.

Continued on page 78



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Bringing Technology to Bear

Some of today's technology could be very useful in dealing with today's pirates. Off-the-shelf and appropriate weapons systems worthy of consideration would include:

RQ-1/MQ-1 Predator:

Perhaps the most recognizable UAV in American service, and the UAV that is the most proven in action over Iraq, Afghanistan, and the Balkans. The Predator is in widespread service, with more than 120 delivered to the United States Air Force (with the CIA also operating some) out of a contract for 250.

The Predator has a range of more than 400 miles, and an endurance of more than 20 hours, usually while cruising at a speed of 60-70 knots (and with a top speed of 117 knots). The Predator is not just used for reconnaissance roles. In Afghanistan and Yemen, it has proven to be a perfect strike asset against terrorists, killing al-Qaeda brass in February 2006 and a planner of the attack on the *USS Cole* in Yemen (both Predators were operated by the Central Intelligence Agency).

AGM-114 Hellfire

Designed as an anti-tank missile and entering service in the 1980s, the Hellfire has also turned into an excellent means of exterminating terrorists, used by both the Israelis (from AH-64 Apache helicopters) and the United States (from the MQ-1 Predator) on at least three occasions against Palestinian terrorists. On at least two occasions, American Predators have used the missile to take out high-ranking members of al-Qaeda.

With a range of eight kilometers, a top speed of Mach 1.3, and an 18-pound blast-fragmentation warhead, the Hellfire doesn't give terrorists a chance. The same could be true for pirates as well.

MK 19 40mm Automatic Grenade Launcher

This is one of the portable systems that could be used by either a naval armed-guard or a Q-ship. The Mk 19 is a machine gun that fires 40-millimeter grenades up to two and a half kilometers away. This is a system that has seen widespread use in the Vietnam War, Desert Storm, Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom, as well as smaller conflicts. This system is a very lethal anti-personnel weapon, and high-explosive dual-purpose rounds will probably make mincemeat out of any pirate vessel.

M2 and XM312 Machine Guns

"Ma Deuce" has been used by United States soldiers, sailors, airmen, and Marines against various forces of evil (be it Nazi, Communist, Islamo-facism, or militaristic expansionism) since the 1920s. It has a range of 2200 yards, and uses a variety of rounds (to include tracer, incendiary, and armor-piercing incendiary). The M2 is finally being phased out after a career that has touched nine decades, to be replaced by the XM312, which fires the same rounds, but weighs less and is more accurate. These were used to great effect against a pirate band that attacked the USS Gonzalez in March.

25mm Bushmaster cannon

This is the gun used on the M2/M3 Bradley and the LAV-25 infantry fighting vehicles. This gun is also used on mountings on naval surface combatants to protect them from terrorist attacks using small boats (NB: small boats are also the favored means of transportation for pirates). This gun has a range of 2700 yards, and fires high-explosive and armor-piercing rounds. A new 30-millimeter version is entering service on the *San Antonio*-class LPDs and the new Advanced Amphibious Assault Vehicle. — *H.H.*



hibitive amount of manpower.

Heavy losses during counter-piracy operations were not unusual in the first wars with the Barbary Pirates: the frigate USS Philadelphia was lost when she ran aground in a hostile harbor and was destroyed to avoid capture. Capital ships routinely mounted cannon in the heyday of maritime piracy – but the pirates were often the better fighters.

Today, although pirates might be thugs, and they might have nowhere near the level of training of military personnel, the odds are in their favor when they attack helpless merchantmen. Military assets that can be quickly deployed to a fleeting target, such as air strikes, even one using precision-guided munitions, could risk too much collateral damage.

There is a third option. In 2002, pirates in the Strait of Hormuz mistook the USNS Walter H. Diehl, a Henry J. Kaiser-class oiler, for a merchant vessel and attempted an attack. Unlike merchant vessels, which would have been an easy victim, the Walter S. Diehl's crew responded to the attack with machine-gun fire. The pirates quickly broke contact and fled the scene, realizing they had bitten off more than they could chew.

This does lead to the possibility of using 21st-century version of the "Q-ship" to lure pirates in and to destroy them. Not only would this kill off pirates, but it would provide a deterrent effect (pirates would wonder if the container ship was really just a container ship, or if it were bristling with enough firepower to blow them out of the water), much in the same way that loosening concealed-carry laws in a number of states have led to a decrease in crime. Adding that uncertainty in the minds of pirates (preferably after a few of these bands have not returned from attacks) would probably reduce the number of attacks. These ships would not require heavy armament (at most a mixture of the 25mm Bushmaster cannon and .50-caliber machine guns already in service with the U.S. Navy) to readily out-gun any pirate band.

Harden Every Target

A similar approach would be the reintroduction of the "Naval Armed Guard," an entity set up just prior to the attack on Pearl Harbor. These were Navy guns and crews that were



"I Gave Up Weight Training to follow a top secret 15-minutes per day routine of bodyweight exercises and...

I Got Into The Best Shape of My Life in Record Time... You Can, Too"

By Matt Furey

Best-selling author of Combat Conditioning

I was the total skeptic. Not only had I lifted weights and run long distance for years, but I had major success under my belt, including a world kung fu championship and a national collegiate weetling title

collegiate wrestling title.

So I just didn't want to believe what Karl, a 76-year old man told me about exercising WITHOUT weights... and WITHOUT long-distance running.

Most importantly, I didn't want to hear that a good exercise program only took a few minutes. Hate to admit it, but I was addicted to the "hard work or nothing" mentality and refused to believe you could get into the best shape of your life by doing LESS... not more.

Let me tell you, when I looked at this so-called "old man's" physique and watched him demonstrate his exercises, I could not look the other way. I had to check them out for myself, even if it meant saying, "Okay, I've wasted a lot of time doing it the wrong way."

What I discovered shocked me from head to toe!

Before I met Karl I THOUGHT I was strong. I thought I was tough. But the exercises he gave me exploited every weakness that weights and running could not cover, In a matter of minutes, I knew Karl "had me."

So I gave up the weights and began a routine of bodyweight calisthenics called *Combat Conditioning*. Afterall, when a man of 76 can do things that a 36-year old cannot do, that tells you that "Yes, there's gold in them there hills."

The exercises I learned had such a profound and dramatic

The exercises I learned had such a profound and dramatic effect on me, that for six years I have been introducing men and women of all ages and of all backgrounds to this extraordinary program — and the results are shocking, awe-inspiring and PROOF that this system works, and works FAST.

Who is Combat Conditioning for?

<u>It's for</u> the hard-working man or woman who often finds it difficult to squeeze in a quick workout.

<u>It's for</u> the traveling executive who sleeps in hotel rooms more than at home.

<u>It's for</u> those who have trained their whole lives on weights. <u>It's for</u> athletes, martial artists and the military.

And .. IT'S FOR the man or woman who hasn't done a lick of exercise in decades.

Even One Minute a Day Brings Results!

Unlike other exercise program where you are told you MUST do 30 minutes of cardio per day and an hour of weights, to ger results, Combat Conditioning is totally different. 15 minutes is all it takes to whoop the hard-core trainee. But for the total beginner, he or she can get results starting with ONLY one minute a day. And no, this is not a joke.

Time is not the issue!



Matt Furey

won a national collegiate wrestling title in 1985 and a world shuai-chiao kung fu championship in 1997. Furey has a knack for taking the average and ordinary person and transforming him with his powerful programs. Furey was inducted into the Edinboro University Athletic Hall of Fame in 1998 and spends much time seeds was reveling

and spends much time each year traveling throughout the world, searching for the very best information available to his world-wide audience. His website, www.matffurey.com, is one of the finest in the world, giving valuable information that changes lives.

Forget all those workouts that take all day. With *Combat Conditioning*, all that's required is your own body and a tiny "get started NOW" decision to DO a little something each day.

The key to your success is in the magical, transformative power of these exercises – not in your belief system about hard work. For many people, just one rep is all they can do at first, and they're shaking like a leaf on a windy day in Chicago. And so, that's all that person should do at first. Even if you think you're not doing enough – the exercises work their magic anyway. Your body has it's own intelligence and will work FOR YOU if you'll simply get out of the way and let it.

When you do, pretty soon you'll be the type of person who can do 2, 4, 8, 16, 32, 64 or 128 repetitions and feel no fatigue. Instead of tiredness you'll feel exhilaration and ENERGY. You're building strength and endurance from the INSIDE-OUT. And believe me, once you can do more than a few teps, inches of unsightly fat and pounds of excess flab will fly off your body at break-neck speed.

New Results from Forgotten Exercises

Are the exercises in *Combat Conditioning* NEW? Well, not teally. They go back about 5,000 years – but for the most part, they got lost in the shuffle when weights, gadgets and gyms came around. So although they aren't NEW, they're "New to YOU!"

Before I learned these exercises, I read about the Great Gama of India, a wrestler who followed this program and was unbeaten in 5,000 matches. I also read that the legendary Bruce Lee did these exercises, too. And we all know about Lee's incredible martial arts skills. Then there was the All-Pro NFL running back, Hershell Walker, who did bodyweight exercises each day. The list goes on and on. The key is in having a proven program with a track record, and *Combat Conditioning* is just that.

Puts You into the Old Clothes You Dream of Wearing Again!

The main reason why *Combat Conditioning* works is because it targets all the weak links in your body. And when all those weak links are given a little attention, your entire body gets stronger, faster, more powerful and more energetic. Spend time each day doing a few functional exercises and the payoff is HUGE.

You get functional strength, endurance and flexibility – all at the same time. Not to mention seeing the excess inches flying off your body, making it easy for you to fit into the clothes you dream of wearing again. Stop dreaming. Start DOING. And get results.

12 Ways Combat Conditioning Will Change Your Life!

Follow this program and your body is going to change big time. In fact, I've made a list of 12 of the most powerful benefits that hundreds of thousands of others all over the world have gotten from the Combat Conditioning program. Let's take a look:

- Cranks up your metabolism so you burn excess body fat a lot, lot faster. This means fitting into the clothes you WANT to wear.
- Packs attractive and healthy functional muscles (not grotesque) onto your entire body
- 3. Simultaneously doubles your strength and flexibility

 and does so without needing separate workouts for
 each
- Quadruples your endurance inside of 30 days. Never get tired again.
- Within a couple weeks, it often eliminates chronic back and shoulder pain from years of heavy squats, deadlifts and bench pressing – or other forms of abuse.
- Sleep like a log. Eight hours of deep sleep is no longer a goal. It's automatic. As soon as you hit the rack you're out like a light.
- Your self-confidence will have no bounds. Especially
 when you got compliments from people who hardly
 paid attention to you before.
- You can train anywhere. You don't need more than a few square feet of carpet or pavement and you're all set. You don't need equipment. Just your own bodyweight.
- You get a kick-butt workout done in 15 minutes or less.
 You'll turn back the clock. Friends may tell you that you look 5–10 years younger.
- 11. You'll have an explosive type of strength that weights cannot give you. Your every movement will be lively and full of vigor.
- 12. Your muscles will be pliable and powerful, like a tiger's.

Here's How to Order

Combat Conditioning: Functional Exercises for Fitness has 48 super effective bodyweight exercises along with seven different programs that will get you into kick-butt shape fast. Order NOW and you'll receive 3 free Special Reports on how eliminate knee, back and shoulder pain. Your total investment in this no-nonsense book is only \$29.95 plus \$6 S&H U.S. (foreign orders add \$12). Order online at www.mattfurey.com.

Or pick up the phone right now and call 1 813 994 8267 to order. You can also send a money order to Matt Furey Enterprises, Inc., 10339 Birdwatch Drive, Tampa, FL, 33647.

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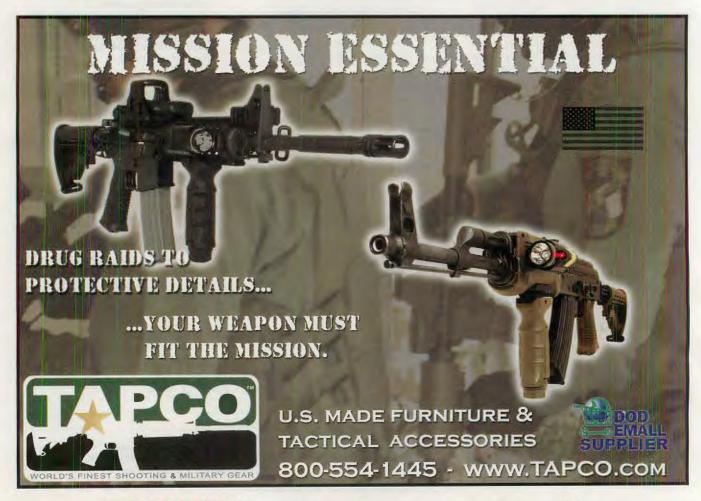
placed on board merchant vessels during the war to protect them from German and Japanese air and surface attack. This approach would be another way of increasing the risks to pirates and "hardening" potential targets. The beauty of a resurrected "Naval Armed Guard" would be that many of the weapons needed for counterpiracy operations, like 7.62mm and .50-caliber machine guns, are easily switched between ships. This would again increase the level of uncertainty for pirates yet again — and again, decrease the likelihood of attacks.

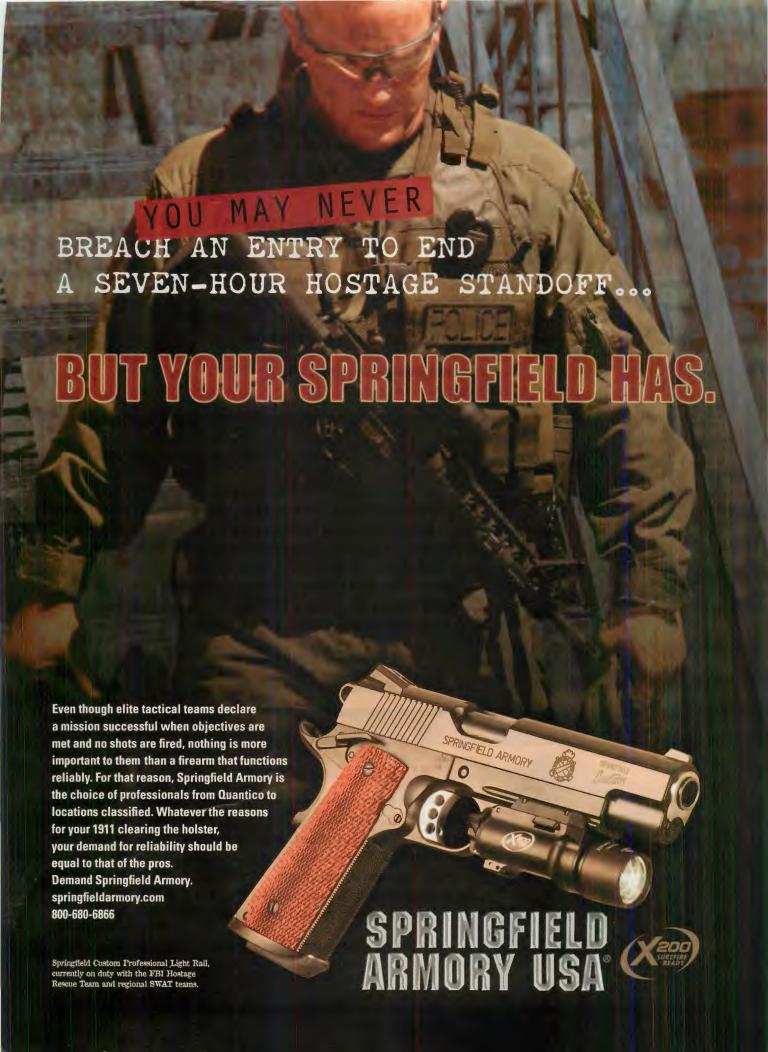
Pirates have been a problem throughout history - long before the Barbary Pirates terrorized the Mediterranean Sea - and they will probably be around as long as there is merchant traffic on the sea, and quite possibly among the stars as well. Pirates have adapted their tactics to deal with changing times. They have turned from tactics based on intimidation to tactics that rely primarily on surprise and stealth. Counter-piracy operations will have to change, and seize the initiative to deal with this new threat, and beat the pirates at their own game of stealth and surprise - with plenty of firepower to boot.

Harold Hutchison is a regular contributor to www.Strategypage.com.



One advantage modern pirates have is that warships now look like warships, distinctly different from a merchant or private vessel, even at a distance. Incredibly, assumed pirates off Somalia fired on an RIB launched by DDG 66 USS Gonzales, and even the mother ship itself. She was part of Enterprise Carrier Strike Group on anti-terrorism/anti-piracy patrol in the Indian Dcean, when the Gonzales launched the RIB with a boarding team. Later claiming to have been on a fisheries-protection patrol (wink, wink), surviving Somalis were released. Photo: U.S. Navy







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A new, light weight, waterproof, 7x30 Marine Binocular with integral, magnetic compass has been developed by Steiner in Germany. Designed as the perfect "handy binocular," it is ideal for all types of watercraft including sport fishing boats, bass boats, smaller coastal sailboats, and powerboats that have need of a high performance binocular with a navigation compass for locating fishing spots, making landfall, or general navigation. The 7x30 Navigator Pro weighs only 18 ounces and incorporates the exclusive Steiner Sports-Auto-Focus system.



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CJ WEAPONS CLEANING KITS FOR 7.62 CALIBER WEAPONS

CJ Weapons Accessories has introduced three new cleaning kits designed and manufactured exclusively for 7.62 caliber weapons. This new family of 7.62 caliber cleaning kits includes: The AK-47 in the tan nylon pouch (pictured) for the new Iraqi Military. FN-FAL, and the AR-308. Each kit contains a .30 caliber T-handle, .30 caliber rod sections, .30 caliber patch tip, a bore brush and chamber brush appropriate for each specific weapon, patches and a bottle of CLP (Break Free). Similar to the original 5.56 GI cleaning kits for the M16, these kits provide a quick, easy and thorough way to keep 7.62 caliber weapons functioning flawlessly.

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Lightsaver Tactical and Duty Flashlights, the first intelligent flashlights with built-In functionality and power-saving options, are now being offered by Brigade Quartermaster. Exclusive IQ Switch® microchip technology sets the Lightsaver apart from other tactical lights as they have three levels of brightness—100%, 50% and 25%—and two flash speeds. All are easily controlled by a single switch. Adjustable brightness means batteries can last up to 8 times longer! Lightsavers are available with or without strobe, in a choice of sizes and battery options. Brigade also carries economical Lightsaver models with the same power-saving features for personal use, and a full line of accessories. The combination of durability, functionality and value makes the Lightsaver a must-have for professionals and consumers!

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the only ship available was a Liberty ship plying the Indian Ocean. It was so overloaded with manganese that its hull cracked and she sank off of Goa, India. That trip represented the closest he ever got to PNG. When asked why he didn't proceed directly to Papua New Guinea with or without help, he explained, "I didn't trust anyone and besides, I knew where it was and felt like a millionaire with a trust fund that eventually would be mine."

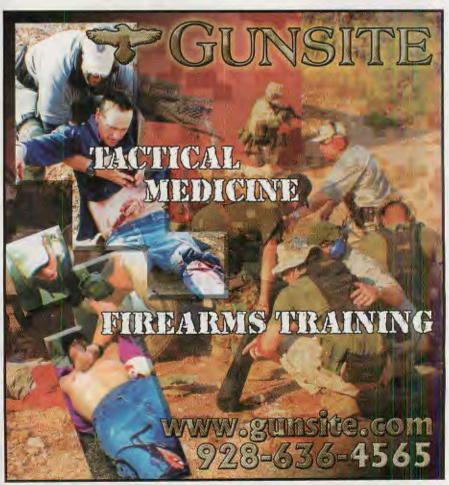
I discussed Posey's dilemma with a psychologist who said it was not uncommon for someone to feel this way about such a situation. Perhaps part of his rational for not going may have been his poverty.

At any rate, during the late '80s, Posey, accompanied by General Aderholdt, finally made it back to PNG. He claimed they walked right over the site and that there was no sign of disturbance. (Any signs of digging may have been hidden by 40-50 years of tropical growth.) At that time, he befriended the natives by treating some who had minor medical problems. The natives stated that they were the

first (white) outsiders that had been there since the end of the war.

This was during a time of great civil unrest and hostile feelings toward non-natives in New Guinea - a situation that still exists today, although it is not as severe. While driving their rented Nissan truck, Posey and the General came across an overturned vehicle and several bodies rotting in the tropical sun. A white and his native had been driving in a Datsun, when nationalists rose from the bush and shot-gunned them both. Posey and the General decided it prudent to abandon their search and return later when political conditions had improved.

For several months I was ensconced in stacks of books at the UCSD library reading up on the history of Papua New Guinea. I became really excited when I found that New Guinea still produced a lot of gold. As a side bar for you history buffs, Amelia Earhart and her alcoholic navigator Fred Noonan left Lea (a town some two hundred miles north of Oro Bay), headed for Howard Island some 2,500

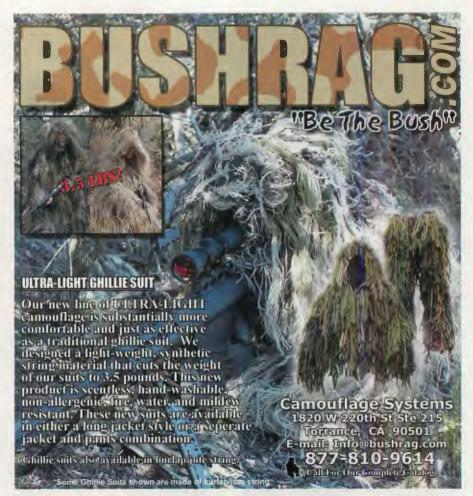


miles away never to be heard from again. The actor Errol Flynn, 30's-40's star of action/adventure movies was "discovered" by a movie director when Flynn was a tour guide on the Sepik River in a northern province.

Having found nothing in my research to disprove Posey's claims, in January, 1995 I found myself on a Qantas airplane to Australia with General Aderholdt, planning to meet up with a couple of Aussies who had agreed to help us with the search and recovery of the treasure. After a buttnumbing nine-and-half-hour flight we landed in Sydney. I just knew the return trip would be much more pleasant since I would be able to afford a first-class ticket. I had spent a good amount of that long trip salivating over all the fun I could have with my newly found wealth. Perhaps I could find a really obscene present for my brother.

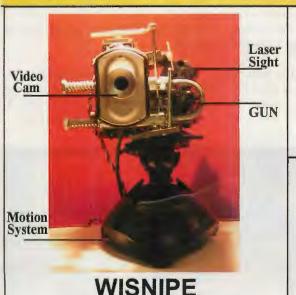
The Aussie Connection

We met the two Aussies, one of whom had a business in Port Moresby and was familiar with the area where the treasure was hidden. We had shrimp on the "barbie" and felt



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comfortable with our "blokes." As we prepared for our trip, I declined an offer to carry a 9 MM Sig Sauer while in PNG.

After a short flight, The Group (TG) landed at Port Moresby.

I stepped off the airplane and onto the tarmac where I was immediately hit by a blast furnace of tropical heat. Welcome to the tropics, I thought. The group and I hurried across the steaming asphalt to seek the shade of the corrugated tin roof over the walkway that led to the terminal. In front of the terminal a group of PNG military stood at attention, surrounded by multi-colored flags hanging limp in the still air. Later I was told that the Pope was to visit PNG and beautify a local priest.

The Group high-tailed it to the Airways Motel, a clean and modern facility adjacent to Jackson International Airport, and then made its way to the Belus Bar where they were all introduced to the local beer aptly named South Pacific or SP for short. The next day, TG piled into a taxi for a trip through the city to the ammo-loading business owed by one

of the Aussies, which just happened to be across the street from the city jail. The jail was surrounded by a decrepit-looking wall, topped with rusting barbed wire. If the outside were any indication of inside conditions, one certainly wouldn't want to spend anytime inside.

On our return trip to the hotel I noticed a newer truck with the logo painted on the tailgate: "Mr. Shit, We take pig shit, goat shit, cow shit, but no bull shit." There even was a stick

painting of a man posed to take a crap. When stateside, I suggested to RKB that it would be a good investment for him to start an American franchise operation of "Mr. Shit." Obviously the headquarters should be in Washington, D.C. where the company would be near the source.

As I helped off-load our bags and gear, I noticed the Aussies off to the side looking at the terminal and shaking their heads. "The bloody X-Ray machine is working," responded one of them when I asked about the problem. They removed a gun case from one of their bags and walked toward the building and stared for a moment at an open window located 10 feet above the ground in the terminal wall. They nodded and one remained under the window as the three of us sent the baggage through the X-Ray machine and moved into the terminal.

The General stayed with the bags while one Aussie and I went into the terminal's bathroom. It was the filthiest place I'd ever been in. The stench was nearly unbearable. As I relieved myself, I was thankful that I didn't have to sit down. Over my left shoulder I saw the Aussie stand below the bathroom window and whistle, and the gun case came soaring through it, to be caught by the whistler.

Good grief, I thought, if this bathroom is representative of their standard of housekeeping in an "International Terminal" I dreaded to think what the inside of that jail might be like.

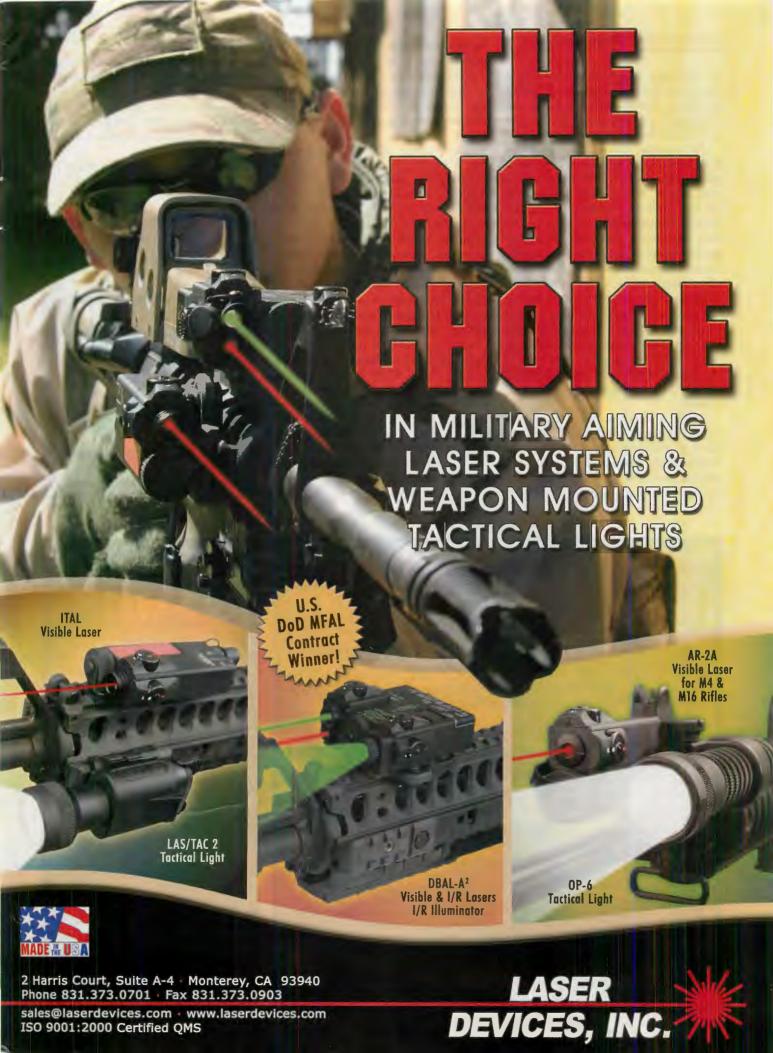
The Aussie smiled at me and we left.

▼

In next month's conclusion, the semiintrepid band of treasure-seekers heads for the jungle – because that's where the Posey's map says the gold is buried.



Not only do Old Soldiers never die, they don't even slow down: Here, Gen. Heine Aderholdt sits at his desk and plots the next Most Excellent Adventure. Photo: author's files



or protection of personal freedoms of any kind. Nor will you find demands for arrest, prosecution, conviction and mandatory sentencing or imprisonment of illicit traffickers or gunrunners.

Such gaping omissions expose the U.N. mission for what it is: a gang of governments led by unelected elitists who believe they should dictate how we live our lives. Yet none of the 100 countries backing the U.N. gun ban allows its citizens individual freedoms. Instead, most of those countries openly flaunt the institutionalized anti-American sentiment so pervasive at the U.N.

What's more, the U.N. counts among its "members in good standing" nearly 50 dictatorships and at least six states that sponsor terrorism. Combined, these "members in good standing" of the U.N. have murdered more than 100 million of their own citizens in the past century.

The U.N. was blind to mass murder by Pol Pot in Cambodia, a U.N. member. The U.N. famously ignored genocide in member-state Rwanda, where nearly 1 million people were slaughtered—not by guns but with machetes. Yet your Second Amendment rights make the world a more dangerous place?

Why should the United Nations, with its shocking record of inaction, failure and corruption, be given supremacy over any honest man or woman on the globe?

The promise of "you'll gain security if you'll give up this liberty" is precisely the bargain our forefathers rejected. America must reject it again and forever, especially in the form of foreign intervention.

So we are at a crossroads. This is America's cultural war gone global. With every sun that sets, our planet is growing not more free, but less free.

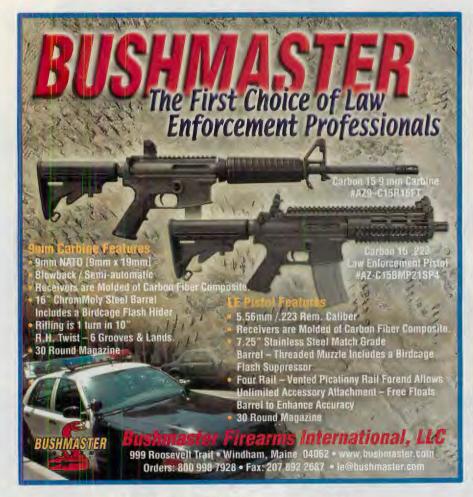
The United States is the last standing truly free nation, offering every lawabiding human the greatest measure of freedom mankind has ever experienced. The Bill of Rights is why that's so. The Bill of Rights is ours to enjoy, to preserve and then to bequeath. We must speak out for the visionaries who founded our great nation in the belief, among others, that law-abiding people have the right to be armed.

So let the roar of our voices be heard by all nations, united or not: If you cannot respect our Bill of Rights, you'd best keep your hands off it.

Neither the United Nations nor any other foreign influence may claim jurisdiction to meddle with the freedoms guaranteed by our Bill of Rights, endowed by our Creator and possessed as the birthright of all humankind.

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1640: 7" Waterproof Leather Mach In 2002, 4,300 vehicles were used for illegal drug and immigrant smuggling. A total of 517 stolen vehicles were recovered on tribal land.

From January 2003 to June 2004, 2,675 abandoned vehicles were found on the reservation with 308 stolen vehicles used for criminal activities en route to Mexico, according to Norris.

The Nation Police assist the Border Patrol and other federal law enforcement agencies in making drug busts and apprehending criminals. Some of the poorest Americans in the world, in the spirit of American compassion, give the little they have to take care of the uninvited strangers.

"They wanted food and we were eating so we gave them a couple of plates. We thought they'd be on their way, but they grabbed a bag of clothes on the way out. They want to dress like Americans to blend in, so they stole my grandson's clothes right under our noses," an Indian woman told the San Francisco Chronicle. She didn't have much to give.

Nation members reported a per

Customs Patrol Officers remove hundreds of pounds of marijuana in burlap backpacks from the desert near the Mexican border.

capita income of \$8,000 in 2000, almost two thirds less than the average American and 1/3 less than other Indian tribes, according to the San Francisco Chronicle.

Other than starvation, Immigrants die of dehydration during the brutal summer, when desert temperatures reach 110 degrees.

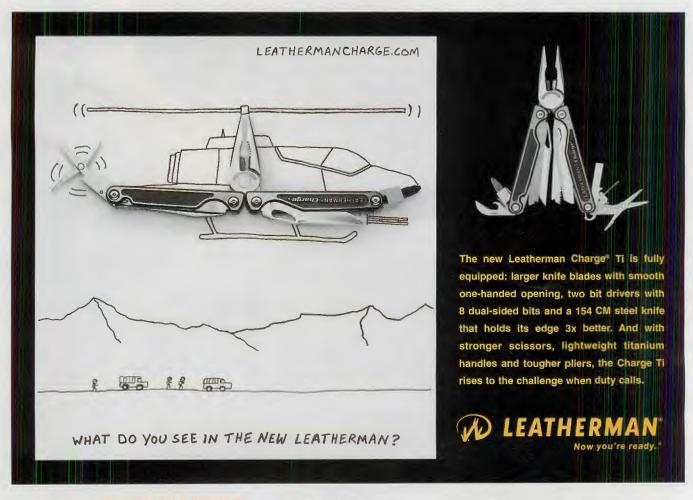
In 2003, sixty-nine people died on the Reservation and in 2005, 145 illegal immigrants perished. That is onethird of all reported deaths of illegals crossing the Mexican border.

The Nation was stuck with the bodies, and was obliged to pay \$1400, per body for each autopsy.

Two million dollars a year are taken out of the Indian Health Care funds to provide emergency health care treatment for undocumented aliens.

Sick and ailing Indians were unable to receive necessary health care services when the fiscal budgets dried up.

Our Tohono O'Odham Indian citizens are being psychologically, physically, and financially devastated while politicians agonize over how to get elected and big business figures out how to line its pockets with cheap labor. note its pockets with cheap labor.



The Lao, Hmong, and American Veterans Memorial

A spectacular memorial honoring those who participated in the "secret" war in Laos is being constructed and will be dedicated on 15 July 2006 in Sheboygan, WI. It will include an etched story of the "secret" war and the names of U.S. Army Special Forces, Air America and Continental Air Services, Inc. crews KIA.

An effort is underway to obtain the name of air commandos KIA in Laos so they can be added to the memorial. Please contact the Air Commando (www.aircommando. Association net)if you have any knowledge of air commandos who should be included.

The memorial committee still needs additional funds to complete the task. Anyone who wants to make a donation or find out more about this noble effort can go to www.secretwarinlaos.com or contact Steven Schofield at (920) 726-4618 (schofield@ lakefield.net). 🕱





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My motto is, has been, and always will be, "SIMPLY THE BEST."



political critics and Rainsy's pardon are but a sham to soften next month's donors meeting. By his actions, Hun Sen is just thumbing his nose at the donors, for he knows they will keep doling out the money to fatten his and his cronies' bank accounts (e.g., the day Rainsy was sentenced, IMF forgave an \$82 million debt that Cambodia owed the fund).

Hun Sen owes all this to Hanoi, and he is a master of playing the donors, one against the others. Vietnam keeps a sizeable force of intelligence and other special forces in a compound near Hun Sen's, to keep him in line — and in power. Japan is Cambodia's largest donor, for it wants to be able to continue to access Vietnam's markets and cheap labor. Because China is the largest investor in Cambodia, Japan wants to act as a counterbalance to China's influence. If the present investors in Cambodia's garment mills go belly-up due to political unrest and declining economy, China will step in to bail them out in order to gain Cambodia's special garment quota to the United States.



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Hun Sen has instilled a climate of fear in all opposition individuals and parties in Cambodia. In spite of this, at an independent forum in the commune of Rokar Khnong, one man said, "In the Khmer Rouge time, my father was served soup and they asked him if it tasted good," one man said. "Tell the truth,' they said. And so he said it did not taste good, and they killed him. Now when we speak the truth, are we going to be jailed? Is Cambodia going back to the Communists again?"

Artful Abuse of Power

As a way of consolidating his power, if an elected official speaks out against him, Hun Sen just strips them of their parliamentary immunity and replaces them with his cronies. He has replaced them with some of Cambodia's richest men, who have built business empires and now represent the ruling Cambodian Communist party (CCP) in the upper house of parliament. They include a casino owner, a teenage pal who owns a multi-million dollar palm-oil plantation, a drug lord and tobacco tycoon who financed Hun Sen's coup in 1997, and a businessman responsible for most of the illegal logging in Cambodia.

Hun Sen and his cronies have set up a number of dummy companies through which donor funds are skimmed and sent to offshore bank accounts. The Hun Sen regime is the epitome of a Kleptocracy – a government characterized by rampant greed and corruption. The only way that democracy will begin to flourish in Cambodia is for the U.S. and other donor countries to set up a tracking system for money laundering as they have for Al Queda and for drug lords, and begin freezing the bank accounts of Hun Sen and his corrupt cabal. **

Michael Benge spent 11 years in Vietnam, more than five years as a Prisoner of War—1968-73. While serving as a civilian Foreign Service Officer, he was captured in South Vietnam by the North Vietnamese and held in numerous camps in South Vietnam, Cambodia, Laos, and North Vietnam. Mike is a student of South East Asian politics, and is a very active advocate for human rights, religious freedom, for a full and accurate accounting of our POW/MIAs, and has written extensively on these subjects.





COMMON SIRNSI

by Lt. Col. Oliver North, USMC (Ret.)

Oliver North is host of "War Stories" on the Fox News Channel. The opinions expressed below are his own and do not represent the views of Fox News and/or Soldier Of Fortune.

"Spies"

WASHINGTON, D.C. - In a courtyard of the CIA headquarters in Langley, Virginia is a statue of Nathan Hale, the first American ever executed for spying. In the days before satellites, cell phones and electronic surveillance, young Nathan Hale volunteered to go into enemy territory and acquire the "human intelligence" General George Washington needed to make future war plans. Regrettably, Hale had neither the tools nor the training necessary to allow him to escape back to friendly lines. Captured by the British, legend has it that as Hale stood on the gallows from which he would be hanged, his last words were, "I only regret that I have but one life to lose for my country."

The sculpture of Nathan Hale ought to be moved from the courtyard to the front entrance of the CIA headquarters. The move would serve to remind those who pass through the portals of the building how important human intelligence was — and continues to be—to our nation in an era when we are threatened by radical Islamic terror and the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction.

Unfortunately, this week's new leak of classified information about how the National Security Agency collects signals intelligence is likely to jeopardize a very necessary reorganization of the Central Intelligence Agency. The current firestorm was created by a hyperventilated 11 May 2006 USA Today article, which alleges that the NSA "has been secretly collecting the phone call records of tens of millions of Americans." Despite the President's assurances that the NSA is "not mining or trolling through the personal lives of millions of innocent Americans," and that "the privacy of ordinary Americans is fiercely protected in all our activities," politicians are already using the most recent allegations as a reason to oppose the appointment of General Michael Hayden as the new head of the CIA. The NSA debate obscures an urgent reality: the CIA desperately needs new leadership and direction.

Nearly sixty years ago, The National

Security Act of 1947 created not only a Central Intelligence Agency, but a Director of Central Intelligence (DCI). The job of the DCI was three-fold: to oversee the entirety of the U.S. intelligence community; serve as head of the Central Intelligence Agency; and act as the principal advisor to the President for intelligence matters.

It never quite worked as intended. With few exceptions, the alphabet soup of sixteen U.S. government agencies charged with the collection of intelligence - CIA, NSA, DIA, NRO, INR, FBI, DOE, DHS, DEA, ATF, TFI, US Army, USN, USMC, USAF, USCG - never danced to the beat of the DCI. The vicious terrorist attack of Sept. 11 proved how inadequate this bureaucracy was in collecting information and disseminating intelligence to those responsible for protecting the American people. All this was supposed to change when John Negroponte became the Director of National Intelligence on April 22, 2005. Now, a year later, it appears this reorganization hasn't worked either.

As politicians with the attention span of fruit flies rush to the microphones for "face time" on the NSA debate and the color of the suit that the new CIA director will wear, essential repairs to the Intelligence Reform and Terrorism Prevention Act of 2004 (IRTP) and to the CIA's mission and methods are being swept aside. In the midst of a war, it's a distraction we can ill afford. A few examples:

The IRTP was so imperfectly written that vital organizations like the CIA's National Counter-terrorism Center must go hat-in-hand to various collection agencies to beg for information on terrorist cells, leaders and locations. The Defense Department has responded to this problem by creating whole new organizations within the Joint Special Operations Command for the collection of "actionable" human intelligence — leaving the CIA "out of the loop."

The CIA desperately needs a leader who can re-focus the Agency's personnel, energy and attention at the Langley headquarters and globally on the collec-



Sergeant Dorsel B.Boyer, right. with Ollie North, during North's latest trip to Iraq. Boyer, assigned to 2/2 Brigade Combat Team, hails from Coshocton, Ohio.

tion of human intelligence.

The office of the DNI needs to have the authority to centralize "all source" intelligence collection — but should be directed to leave the analysis of information distributed throughout the government. There is, as one senior national security official told me, "no such thing as 'absolute intelligence.' We need 'competitive analysis' and perspective so that the decision maker isn't presented with the lowest common denominator of what's disseminated."

These three "fixes" won't solve all the problems we have in our collection and use of intelligence – but they will help. Those who think that we can afford to dither and dawdle need to see the recent film, "United 93." **

To find out more about Oliver North, and read features by other Creators Syndicate writers and cartoonists, visit the Creators Syndicate web page at www.creators.com.

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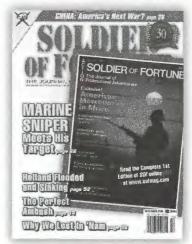
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